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CHEMISTAND DRUGGIST

For Retailer, Wholesaler and Manufacturer

DECEMBER 31 1955

BIGGEST ADVERTISING! BIGGEST SALE! BIGGEST PROFIT!





Retail Price 4/0d. Profit per jar 1/0d.

Retail price 2/0d. Profit per tube 6d.

Retail price 2/6d. Profit per jar $7\frac{1}{2}d$.

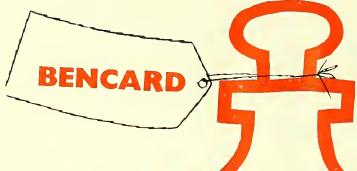
VALDERMA

ANTISEPTIC BALM

-the undisputed leading line for the treatment of common skin troubles.



DAE HEALTH LABORATORIES LTD., 17 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1. MUSEUM 9515



ethical pharmaceuticals

widely prescribed under N.H.S

A NEW PRODUCT

PAYNOCIL



A NON-IRRITANT, PALATABLE analgesic Provides safe and acceptable analgesic therapy, whether for occasional treatment or where prolonged aspirin therapy is needed, as in rheumatic conditions. Tubes of 18 tablets (Retail) 3/4d.



PRODEXIN

Buffer antacid for the controlled treatment of hyperacidity and peptic ulcer. Packets of 30 tablets . . Packets of 30 tablets (Retail) 5/6d. Dispensing packs of 240 tablets (Trade) 30/4d.



FERRAPLEX B

Hæmatinic compound containing iron, copper, vitamin C and complete vitamin B complex.

Bottles of 50 tablets (Retail) 5/3d.

Bottles of 250 tablets (Trade) 15/6d.



VITAPLEX



BENAZMA (Linctus Anti-Asthmatic, Bencard).

Well tolerated linctus for symptomatic relief of asthma. Bottles of 8 fluid ounces (Retail) 11/7d. Bottles of 20 fluid ounces (Retail) 27/1d.

THE BENCARD **ALLERGY** DIVISION In addition to the well known, comprehensive range of Skin Testing Solutions, Specific Desensitising Solutions and Vaccines for the diagnosis and treatment of allergic conditions, the Beneard Allergy Division provides information on all aspects of Allergy. Enquiries from the medical and allied professions are welcome.

Comprehensive literature on Bencard Products available to Pharmacists on request.

C. L. BENCARD LTD.

PARK ROYAL, LONDON. N.W.IS

with the "100% SLEEP" drink

GOOD ADVERTISING STORY PLAYS BIG PART IN INSTANT POSTUM'S SUCCESS

"INSTANT PROFIT"—that's what one of our retailer friends has started calling it! That's a fair indication of the way Instant Postum is selling. And, to be perfectly frank, we're not a bit surprised at its success.

There is no better bedtime drink on the market to-day. And there's certainly none cheaper. At 2/6 a 50-cup jar, it's one of those all-too-rare present-day commodities—a "real bargain".

Add to this one of the most convincing and effective of advertising stories—featuring famous personalities like Sheila Van Damm, Phyllis Calvert, Stanley Matthews...and you have the formula for a real winner.

Profits? There's a 20% profit margin on every jar you sell. A nice line for you to stock, don't you think?

Instant Postum



"100 % SLEEP" HELPS FAMOUS RACING DRIVER

Whether it's driving her Sunbeam at 90 m.p.h. in the nerve-straining Monte Carlo Rally, helping backstage at the Windmill Theatre, or writing for a motor racing magazine—Sheila Van Damm copes with life with a zest that is all her own.

"If you're going to get the most out of every minute you're awake", she says, "you've just got to get the most out of every minute of your sleep, too". So she always makes sure of "100% sleep"—the sleep an Instant Postum nightcap gives.

Instant Postum is the bedtime drink that has helped many famous people to success. A glucose product, it contains no drugs or stimulants. But, made with hot milk and taken at bedtime, an Instant Postum nightcap does two things for you. First, it helps you to get to sleep. Then it helps you to have the deep, energy-restoring "100% sleep" from which you wake refreshed and radiant.

Enjoy an Instant Postum nightcap tonight—the sleep-drink of successful people. Your chemist or grocer stocks it. 2/6 a 50-cup jar—less than \(^3_4d. a night.

The "100% sleep" story is selling Instant Postum to readers of:—

News of the World, Sunday Pictorial, People, Sunday Empire News, Daily Herald, Reveille, Daily Mirror, Reynolds News, Week-end Mail, Tit-Bits

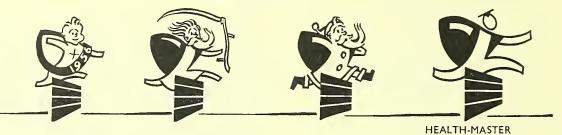
A Happy and prosperous New Year . . .

an old greeting and we may not be the first to extend it to our Trade friends, whom we thank for their continued and valued support over the past year . . . but we claim

this year, next year or any year . . .

PRESCRIPTION HEALTH LAMPS

are first in the field and are offered to the most discriminating customer as the finest value obtainable.



BARBER ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD., BIRMINGHAM, 16 Telegrams: Barberlama

Telephone: EDGbaston 3511 (PBX)

Telegrams: Barberlamp, B'ham, 16

Southalls

SANTOWELS

By improved manufacturing methods Southalls (Birmingham) Ltd. have been able to maintain the low prices to the public introduced on 1st November, 1954.

Due to recent further increases in labour, distribution and fuel charges a small increase in the retail selling prices for our santowels is now necessary and will take effect as from Monday 2nd January, 1956.

TERMS: Nett monthly account

Carriage paid on orders valued £5 or over
New prices have been posted to all our customers

The sizes and new trade prices are:

	RETAIL (per pkt)		WHITE LILAC	RETAIL (per pkt)	
Size o (doz)	1/10	16/11	Standard (doz)	1/11	17/9
ı ",	2/1	19/3	Size 1 (doz)	2/2	20/-
2 ,,	2/6	23/1	2 ,,	2/5	22/4
$I\left(\frac{1}{2} \text{ doz}\right)$	1/1	10/-	Standard (½ doz)	I/-	9/3
ORIGINAL					
Size I (doz)	2/3	20/10	'K'		
2 ,,	2/9	25/5	Size 1 (doz)	2/8	24/7
3 ,,	3/3	30/-	2 ,,	3/2	29/3
MATERNITY PADS					
Unsterilized (doz)	4/6	41/7	TRAVLA		
Sterilized ,,	5/9	53/2	Size I (doz ctns)	3/6	32/4

pontex CELLULOSE SPONGES REVISED PRICES

As from January 1st 1956 the prices of 'Spontex' Cellulose sponges are revised as follows:—

HOUSEHOLD

Reference Number and Type	Retail Price per doz. excl. P.T.	Purchase tax per doz.	Retail selling price each incl. P.T.		
★ No. 52H. Extra Large (Rectangular) No. 45H. Large (Rectangular)	45/- 35/-	9/- 7/-	4/6 3/6		
No. 28H. Small (Square)	25/-	5/-	2/6		
★ No. 26H. Moppet (Small Rectangular) ★ No. 20H. Sample size, (This size is packed only in units of 1 Doz.)	19/2 7/6	3/10 1/6	1/11 0/9		
Supplied in skillets of $\frac{1}{2}$ Doz, with Display unit.					
Dish Mop. With coloured handle	30/-	Not subject to P.T.	2/6		
Dish Mop Refill,	15/-	3/-	1/6		

TOILET

No. 58 Big Bath (Large Oval)	-0.4		
(Supplied assorted colours in $\frac{1}{2}$ Doz. skillets with Display unit)	59/2	11/10	5/11
No. 44 Bath, (Oval)	39/2	7/10	3/11
No. 33 Hand Basin, (Oval)	29/2	5/10	2/11
★ No. 25 Fine Texture Toilet (Small Oval)	19/2	3/10	1/11
Face Sponge. (Round) (supplied in 1 Doz. dispenser, assorted colours)	15/-	3/-	1/6
No. 9.C Cosmetic. Extra Fine Pore (Round)		1	
(supplied in 1 Doz. dispenser, assorted colours)	7/6	1/6	0/9

Nos. 44, 33 and 25 supplied in $\frac{1}{2}$ Doz. Display dispensers (Assorted colours).

CAR

★ Curved Back.	 •••	1	 (Flat face, round back)	70/-	14/-	7/-
No. C.2	 		 (Extra Large Rectangular)	65/-	13/-	6/6
Standard.	 		 (Rectangular)	45/-	9/	4/6

Supplied in skillets of \(\frac{1}{2} \) Doz. with Display unit.

INDUSTRIAL

ı	No. 52 I			(Large Bestangular)		12/6	916	4/2
1			•••	(Large Rectangular)	•••	42/6	8/6	4/3
	No. 45 D. Defora	ators	 	(Rectangular)	• • •	32/6	6/6	3/3
	No. 28 I		 	(Small Square)		25/-	5/-	2/6
	★ No. 26 I		 	(Small Rectangular)		19/2	3/10	1/11

^{*} THESE ARE NEW ADDITIONS TO THE RANGE

SPONCEL LTD., 40 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2

CHAncery 8111

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FULL RANGE NOW BE **PRESCRIBED** FORM E.C.IO

CORTISYL ROUSSEL

Cortisone

TABLETS TABLETS INJECTION EYE DROPS EYE OINTMENT 5 mg. 25 mg. 25 mg. per ml. 1%

10 ml. Vials 3 ml. Bottles 1% 3 G. Tubes

T- YDRO CORTISYL ROUSSEL

Hydrocortisone

SKIN OINTMENT SKIN LOTION **TABLETS** INJECTIONS INTRAVENOUS **EYE DROPS** EYE OINTMENT

1% & 2.5% 1/2 % & 1 % 10 mg. & 20 mg. 25 mg. per ml. 100 mg. 1% 2.5%

5 G. & 15 G. Tubes 20 ml. Bottles Bottles of 25 I ml. & 5 ml. Vials 20 ml. Ampoule 3 ml. Bottles 3 G. Tubes

Bottles of 20

Bottles of 20 & 40

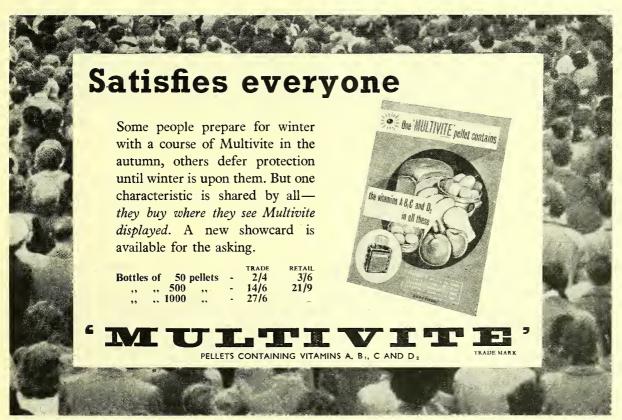


Manufactured in England since 1952 from raw material of Commonwealth origin, by

ROUSSEL LABORATORIES LTD LONDON, N.W.10 LADbroke 3608

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From the Carnegie Range of Fine Chemicals

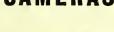
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CARNEGIES OF WELWYN LTD

Telegrams: 'CARNEGIES, WELWYN GARDEN CITY'

Telephone: WELWYN GARDEN 5001 (6 lines)





STRIP PROJECTORS

BINOCULARS



The '630' camera with f/6.3 coated Anastigmat lens.

Price: £10.8.6 (inc. P. Tax)



The '110' camera with f/11 fixed focus lens.

Price: £5.19.10 (inc. P. Tax)



The 'Daylight' Filmstrip and Slide Projector. Projects colour transparencies, filmstrips and slides in normal room lighting. f/2.8 anastigmat

coated lens gives maximum brilliance and needle sharp resolution. £33 complete with slide carrier and 4" lens. Lamp extra.



The 'K250' Filmstrip and Slide Projector. f/2.8 coated lensinterchangeable with lenses of varying focal lengths. Filmstrip

carrier easily replaced by slide carrier. **£20.19.0** complete with slide carrier and 4" lens. Lamp extra.



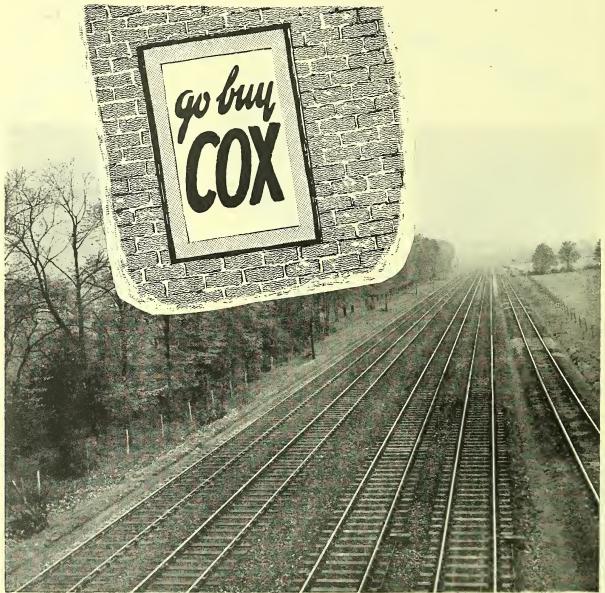
The 'Olympic' 8 x 30 extra wide angle centre focus prismatic binoculars.

£29.18.2

This is but one example of the G.B. range of binoculars —there's a pair for every purpose.

G.B. EQUIPMENTS LTD., Photo & Optical Division, Dept. CD/31/12/55, Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London, w.1. MUSeum 5432

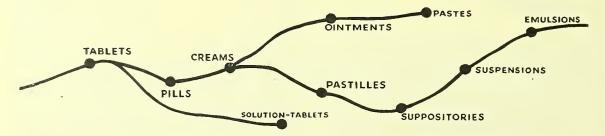




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by courtesy of British Railways

Make it your permanent way



ARTHUR H. COX & CO. LTD., BRIGHTON, ENGLAND.

One of the world's foremost tablet makers



By appointment to Her Majesty the Queen Manufacturers of Disinfectants

JEYES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS CO LTD

have pleasure in announcing that as a result of their acquisition of

IBCO PRODUCTS LTD

and its Associated Companies

a new Sales Organisation has been formed under the title of



JEYES - IBCO SALES LTD.



which will act as the sole selling Agency for both Jeyes' and Ibco products

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Hygiene products for Home and Industry



Build up Goodwill with . . .



Man'y Chemists are recommending 'ELASTO' to their customers with mutually good results.

P.A.T.A.

NEW ERA LABORATORIES LTD. Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London



BARNETT & FOSTER LTD.

Queensbridge Road, London, E.8. Tel: Clissold 7132
MAKERS OF "NIAGARA" BLACKCURRANT SYRUP



OFFICE & WORKS: MANSFIELD ROAD, DERBY. Tel: 48266 (4 lines) BRANCH WAREHOUSE: GROSVENOR ST., ASHTON under LYNE. Tel: 2816 (3 lines)

ERICA .. now introduce BABY PANTS that B.R.E.A.T.

SIZES

Medium, Large, Extra Large

Representing Hygiene's newest development, the plastic material now used incorporates thousands of wellnigh invisible "pores" permitting the passage of air which in turn promotes a cooling action yet at the same time retaining moisture.

★ ACID-RESISTANT!

* NON-TOXIC!

★ WATERPROOF & BOILABLE!

* A GUARANTEE AGAINST NAPPY RASH!

WISE MOTHERS INSIST ON ERICA!

Obtainable from your usual wholesaler

ERICA PRODUCTS LTD., 147-149 KENSAL ROAD, LONDON, W.10

Tel: Maida Vale 2951

Net sales multiply when you display and sell and 'TANGO' Regd. the world's finest hair nets

Unvarying quality has established a consumer goodwill in these famous brand names which is reflected in ever increasing demand, Sales stimulating packs include:

HANGING CARDS

Holding 4 doz, and 6 doz, nets each in printed envelopes Illustrated-a new pack in 2 distinct colour schemes for "HALO" N.32 small mesh Nylon Nets and "TANGO" N.1815 Nylon Nets, 6 doz, on a card.



ROUND CARDS

Attractively printed, with full colour facings, holding 4 doz. Illustrated—" TANGO nets, S.118 Pure Silk Nets,

Ask your wholesaler to show you our full range

BYARD MANUFACTURING CO. LTD., NOTTINGHAM

1956-it's time to think about dressings



especially (Certor

SURGICAL DRESSINGS B.P.C.

In cartons

Include them in your next contract!

Will the dressings you sold in 1955 (and perhaps before that) do for 1956? While others are selling cartoned dressings, which are so neat and attractive on display, and so acceptable to the customer, are you still selling paper-wrapped dressings?

Your next order for dressings can bring you right up to date! With Certor Surgical Dressings, B.P.C., in their distinctive colours, you can begin the New Year with the most modern packs. These popular dressings, with their outer wrapping of transparent paper, keep well in stock and look well on display.

The bright, attractive colours of the Certor range—blue printed cartons for cotton wool; green for white lint; red for boric lint; and maroon for gauze—make identification easy both for you and your customers. Certor dressings are better, too, for the home—the cartons keep the dressings clean while they are in use.

GOOD PACKS FOR GOOD WILL

MACDONALD & SON LTD · HOPE MILLS · POLLARD STREET · MANCHESTER

CHESEBROUGH MANUFACTURING COMPANY LTD.

AND

POND'S EXTRACT COMPANY LTD.

announce that, with effect from January 1st, 1956, they become a single united organisation under the name of—

CHESEBROUGH-POND'S LIMITED

All orders and correspondence should be addressed to-

CHESEBROUGH-POND'S LIMITED PERIVALE, GREENFORD, MIDDLESEX

Telephone No. - - PERIVALE 4484

We have posted a combined price list effective from January 1st, 1956, to all our direct customers. If you do not receive your copy in the next few days, or if you require further copies, please let us know so that we may send immediately.

RICHARDSONS of LEICESTER

Send you Greetings for 1956

MANUFACTURERS OF ...

DRUGS · GALENICALS · TABLETS

BEECH TAR LINCTUS · PEDROL DELLIPSOIDS



SPRAY BOTTLE complete retails at 3/6d. REFILLS (4 oz.) at 1/6d.

NEW HYGIENE LIMITED

266-2 8 HOLLOWAY ROAD, LONDON, N.7

Grams & Cables : Airogena, Holway. Phone : North S041-2-3

Manufacturers of "SCENTINEL." "ROSEBUD." "SWISH." etc.

Of course you stock Prestoband?

They'll all be asking! There's a minor injury in the family ... or else their supply has just run out. More and more folk run out. More and more tolk are saying they must have Prestoband handy. They like this quickest, cleanest, healthiest dressing for wounds; this safest, most comfortable strapping. It's easy on, painless off, and no mess left behind!

Keep apace with demand (and our national advertising) and stock antiseptic, water resistant, pinless, knotless, neat and tidy Prestoband.

> Generous trade terms. Packed in attractive display outers. 3 widths; 2'', 1'' or $\frac{5}{5}''$ at 1/6, 9d. or 7d. a 4-yard roll.

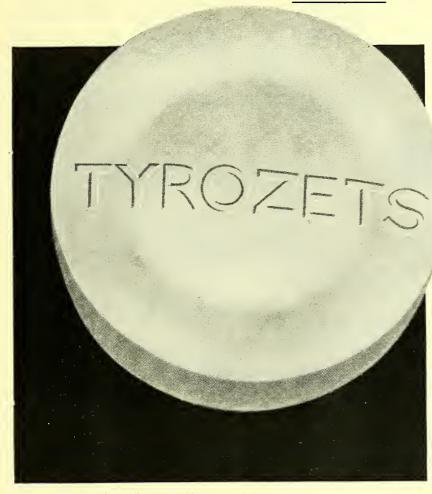
Made by Vernons of Pres-ton. Sole Distributors in the U.K. are Fassett & John-son, Ltd., 86 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1; and in Bire, Fassett & Johnson (Ireland). Ltd., 6 Crow Street, Dublin.

STOBAND

THE ANTISEPTIC SELF-ADHESIVE BANDAGE

* sticks to itself, but NOT to the skin!

The antibiotic-anaesthetic throat lozenge first in every way



FIRST

in fact

FIRST

in presentation

FIRST

in mind

FIRST

in sales

GENEROUS BONUS OFFER

Limited Period

Parcels of 72 tubes 'TYRO-ZETS' invoiced as 66 (£5.10.0 net) i.e., 6 TUBES FREE. Any number of parcels may be ordered.

'Tyrozets' may be sold by Retail Chemists without a prescription.

'Tyrozets'

TYROTHRICIN-BENZOCAINE THROAT LOZENGES

These pleasant, slow-dissolving lozenges soothe the irritated mucosa through their harmless analgesic content, and exert a continuous germicidal effect against the gram-positive bacteria commonly found in the larynx and the oral cavity. 'TYROZETS' rapidly relieve pain and discomfort.

Supplied in counter boxes of 12 tubes. List price 2/6 per tube (exempt PT)

MERCK-SHARP & DOHME LTD., HODDESDON, HERTS.

'Tyrozets' is a Registered Trade Mark.







'SPANSULE'* Presentations



'DRINAMYL SPANSULE' (BRAND) CAPSULES

for the harassed patient

STRENGTH No. 1 containing:

10 mg. 'Dexedrine' (dextro-amphetamine sulphate)
65 mg. (gr. 1) amylobarbitone
 Available in containers of 30 capsules
 Trade Price 70/- per dozen

STRENGTH No. 2 containing:

15 mg. 'Dexedrine' (dextro-amphetamine sulphate)
 97 mg. (gr. 1½) amylobarbitone
 Available in containers of 30 capsules
 Trade Price 81/4 per dozen

'DEXEDRINE SPANSULE'

(BRAND)

CAPSULES

Available in containers of 30 capsules 10 mg. — Trade Price 49/6 per dozen

15 mg. — Trade Price 58/6 per dozen

PHENOBARBITONE 'SPANSULE'

(BRAND)

CAPSULES

Available in containers of 30 capsules

Gr. 1 — Trade Price 53/3 per dozen

Gr. 1½ — Trade Price 59/3 per dozen

MENLEY & JAMES, LIMITED

COLDHARBOUR LANE, LONDON, S.E.5 Tel: BRixton 785.

for Smith Kline & French Int. Co. owner of the regd. trade marks 'Drinamyl', 'Dexedrine' and 'Spansule'
*Brit. Pat. No. 715,305





A 6-months-old baby can eat all these and often more - in I week!

Why modern babies are better customers for Heinz Strained Foods

Modern mothers are relying more and more on Heinz Strained Foods to give their babies a nourishing, varied diet. That is why modern babies are becoming better and better customers for you.

Just think of it. There are 800,000 babies of Strained Foods age in this country. And the majority already eat Heinz Strained Foods. Yet the amount and variety each baby has can be increased enormously.

First, by advertising. Heinz new campaign explains why Heinz Strained Foods are so good, and stresses that they are more nourishing than many home-prepared foods.

Second, by display. By displaying all 19 varieties of Heinz Strained Foods you can make mothers see for themselves the varied diet that Heinz provide. Ask your Heinz representative for the sales-compelling display material, emphasizing the goodness and variety of Heinz Strained Foods. Displays bring increased sales.



H.J. HEINZ COMPANY LTD., Harlesden, London N.W.18



THE CHEMIST

The weekly newspaper for pharmacy and all sections of the drug, pharmaceutical and fine chemical, cosmetic, and allied industries

Official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland

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No. 3958

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, which includes The Chemist and Druggist Diary and Year Book, £2. Single copies one shilling each.

"I beg cold comfor

King John

The "cold comfort" of our day is 'Vasylox', which rapidly relieves nasal congestion in the common cold, hay fever and similar complaints. Gentle, prompt and lasting in action, it does not stimulate the central ELLCOME INSTITUT nervous system. It is pleasant to use and so safe that children and infants may use it. 'Vasylox' is issued in bottles of $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz., each with a separate dropper.

VASYLOX'

SOLUTION OF METHOXAMINE HYDROCHLORIDE





LIBRARY

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H.

BURROUGHS WELLCOME & CO. (THE WELLCOME FOUNDATION LTD.) LONDON

Volume 164

DECEMBER 31, 1955

No. 3958

Key Industry Duty NEW LIST OF ADDITIONS

UNDER the Safeguarding of Industries (List of Dutiable Goods) (Amendment No. 9) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955, No. 1897), the following chemicals have been added to the list of chemicals liable to Key Industry

Duty on December 21:-

Androst-5-en-3β-ol-17-one Androst-5-en-3 β -ol-17-one acetate Barium β -2-ethyl-n-butoxypropionate Barium glucose-1-phosphate Barium glucose-6-phosphate Barium laurate n-Butyraldoxime Cadmium β-2-cthyl-n-butoxyprop onate Cadmium laurate

Calcium glucose-1-phosphate Calcium glucose-6-phosphate Calcium p-hydroxybenzoate p-Chlorophenyl isocyanate

Choline hydrogen tartrate 3-Cyanopyridine 4-Cyanopyridine

3:3-Di-(p-acetoxyphenyl) oxindole Di-n-butyltin dichloride 2:4-Dichlorophenyl isocyanate

2-Dimethylaminoethanol αα-Dimethylbenzyl hydroperoxide

Diosgenin n-Dodecyl gallate

5-Ethyl- α -picoline 17-Ethynylandrost-5-ene-3\beta: 17\beta-diol

Glucose-1-phosphoric acid

Glucose-6-phosphoric acid n-Hexadecyl gallate

Magnesium glucose-1-phosphate Magnesium glucose-6-phosphate

Methyl isopropenyl ketonc 1-Methylpyrrolidine Methyl vinyl ketone

n-Octadecyl gallate

Dipotassium glucore-1-phosphate Dipotassium glucosc-6-phosphate Pregna-5:16-dicn-3β-ol-20-one

Pregna-5:16-dien-3\beta-01-20-one acetate

Pregna-5:16-dien-3 β -ol-20-one acetate oxime Pregn-5-en-3 β -ol-20-one

Pregn-5-en-3 8-01-20-one acetate

Disodium glucose-1-phosphate Disodium glucosc-6-phosphate

Tetracycline hydrochloride

n-Tetradecyl gallate Thialbarbitone

Tri-n-butyltin acetate Triethyltin acctate

Trimethylaminetricarboxylic acid salts, the follow-

Dipotassium trimethylamine-\alpha \alpha' \alpha''-tricarboxylate

Tripotassium trimethylamine-\alpha\alpha'\alpha'" tricarboxylate

Disodium trimethylamine- $\alpha\alpha'\alpha''$ -tricarboxylate trimethylamine- $\alpha\alpha'\alpha''$ -tricarboxylate Tripiperazine dicitrate

Export Licences

FURTHER RELAXATIONS ANNOUNCED

RELAXATIONS in export licensing control are made by a Board of Trade Order which came into force on December 29. Under the Order (published as S.I., 1955, No. 1920), licences will not be required (except for exports to China, Macao, North Viet Nam and Tibet) for the export of various animal

feeding stuffs (including cod-liver oil and vitamin preparations), specified chemicals and certain fertilisers. Also licences will not be required for the export to the British Commonwealth, the Irish Republic and the United States of America of artificial graphite, refractory goods, and certain chemicals. In the main, the releases from control follow improvement in supplies. Cadmium lithopone is one of the chemicals released from control but cadmium lithopone containing selenium remains subject to control under "Selenium and its compounds and preparations.

Industry and Science

LECTURES AT A LONDON COLLEGE AMONG evening courses available at the Sir John Cass College, Jewry Street, Aldgate, London, E.C.3, during the second term of the 1955-56 session are the following:-

RADIOACTIVITY IN BIOLOGY AND MEDI-CINE. A course of about ten lectures (by Mr. D. G. Arnott) that are being given at 6.30 p.m. on Monday evenings beginning on January 2. Fee is £1.

MICROCHEMICAL ANALYSIS. The course consists of about ten lecture-demonstra-tions (by Messrs, A. G. Lidstone and D. W. Wilson) suitable for analysts and advanced students of chemistry, and is designed to introduce the principles and technique of inorganic and organic analysis on the micro- and semi-micro scales. It is being held at 6 p.m. on Thursday evenings, beginning January 12. Fee is £1.

PATENTS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN PRO-TECTION. A course of eight lectures (by Mr. T. A. Blanco White) that are being given at 6 p.m. on Thursday evenings, beginning January 19. Fee is £1.

PRACTICAL SPECTROSCOPY. A ten-week course on emission spectroscopy is being held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday evenings from January 13 to March 16 and in the third term a course on emission and absorption spectroscopy is being held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday evenings from April 27 to June 29. Lecturers are Mr. L. O. Freeman and Mr. D. B. Powell. Fee for each course is £1.

THE MASS SPECTROMETER AND ITS APPLICATIONS. A course of eight lectures (by Dr. G. P. Barnard) is being held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday evenings, beginning on January 17. Fee is £1.

CHEMICALS FROM PETROLEUM. A COUTSE of four lectures is being held on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m., beginning on February 9. A visit to the Shell Chemical Plant, Stanlow, Ellesmere Port, Wirral, Ches, is being arranged at the end of the course. Lecturers: Sir Robert Robinson (Shell Chemical Co., Ltd.), Dr. R. F. Goldstein (British Oxygen Co., Ltd.), Dr. R. G. Aickin (Shell Petroleum Co., Ltd.), Dr. R. J. W. Reynolds (Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.). Fee is 10s.

Detailed prospectuses and enrolment forms for the courses are available from the principal.

Scottish Drug Tariff

REAGENT AND SOME APPLIANCES ADDED

THE following are being added to the Scottish Drug Tariff on January 1, 1956: Chemical reagent, diagnostic nitro-

prusside tablets (Rothera's tablets). Appliances, funnels, glass, 3½-in. diameter; pessaries, inflatable ball (for replacement only); inflator (all-rubber bulb with 36-in. orifice) for use with the inflatable ball pessary (to be supplied only when specifically ordered).



PRESENTATIONS: Messrs. Brome and Schimmer, drug importers, were presented with travelling clocks when they entertained their staff to Christmas dinner and theatre recently.

COLOURING OF FOODS

Supplementary report includes revised lists of permitted colours

A SUPPLEMENTARY report presented to the Food Standards Committee by its preservatives subcommittee, making recommendations about the use of colouring matters in foods, has been published. An earlier report on that subject by the subcommittee was published in January (see C. & D., January 1, p. 31).

The new report reviews the representations which the subcommittee has received from trade and other interests. It sets out in greater detail than in the earlier report the subcommittee's views on the declaration of the presence in foods of added colour; and recommends a slightly modified list of permitted colours. It recommends the inclusion of two additional colours of natural origin, titanium dioxide and ultramarine, and indicates no objection to the continued use in foods of the other organic colours of natural origin which are stated to be customarily used in foods,

Revised Lists

A revised recommended list of permitted colours of natural origin, and a revised list of synthetic colours recommended for inclusion in the permitted list are given. The scientific names are expressed in accordance with current British practice. Baking brown AW has been deleted from the list proposed in the earlier report, and a black colour, black PN, has been added. Recommendations are made as to the form the declaration of added colour in foods should take, the sales in respect of which declaration should apply and the foods which need not be required to bear a declaration of added colour. The subcommittee points out that adoption of its recommendations may necessitate some modification of the existing provisions of the Label-ling of Food Order. The Food Stan-dards Committee has adopted the re-port. Before deciding what action should be taken on its recommendations, the Minister is considering any further representations from interested parties. The Minister will take into account representations already made to the subcommittee, so that those need not be repeated. Representations should be sent to the Assistant Secretary, Food Standards and Hygiene Division, Min-istry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Great Westminster House, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London, S.W.1, by January 31. Copies of the report may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price ninepence.

The following are the revised lists of permitted colours:—

(1) Colours of natural origin

Bole or iron oxide; carbon black; titanium dioxide; ultramarine; and for the external colouring of dragees and the decoration of sugar-coated flour confectionery silver or aluminium in leaf or powder form (dyed aluminium powders may also be used for that purpose provided the colours employed are included in the permitted list); caramel; the colour obtained from cochineal;

colours of vegetable origin customarily used in foods in the U.K.; the pure colouring principles, whether isolated

from such natural colours or produced synthetically; and the *aluminium* or *calcium* lakes of any of those colours.

(2) Synthetic Colours

	(2) Synthetic Colours	
COMMON NAME	Scientific Name	COLOUR INDEX (1924) No.
Ponceau MX	di-sodium salt of 1-(2:4-or mixed-xylylazo)-2-naphthol-3:6-disulphonic acid.	79
Ponceau 4R	tri-sodium salt of 1-(4-sulpho-1-naphthylazo)-2-naphthol-6:8-disulphonic acid.	185
Carmoisine	di-sodium salt of 2-(4-sulpho-1-naphthylazo)-1-naphthol-4-sulphonic acid.	179
Amaranth	tri-sodium salt of 1-(4-sulpho-1-naphthylazo)-2-naphthol-3:6-disulphonic acid.	184
Red 1 OB	di-sodium salt of 8-amino-2-phenylazo-1-naphthol-3-: 6-disulphonic acid.	30
Erythrosine BS	di-sodium or di-potassium salt of 2:4:5:7-tetraiodofluorescein.	773
Rhodamine B	9-o-carboxyphenyl-3:6-di(diethylamino)-xanthen 3-chloride.	. 749
Red 2G	di-sodium salt of 8-acetamido-2-phenylazo-1-naphthol-3:6-di- sulphonic acid.	31
Red 6B	disodium salt of 8-acetamido-2- <i>p</i> -acetamido-phenylazo-1-naphthol-3:6-disulphonic acid.	57
Red FB	di-sodium salt of: —2-[4-(1-hydroxy-4-sulpho-2-naphthylazo)-3-sulphophenyl]-6-methylbenzothiazole.	225
Ponceau SX	di-sodium salt of 2-(5-sulpho-2:4-xylylazo)-1-naphthol-4-sulphonic acid.	_
Ponceau 3R	di-sodium salt of 1-pseudocumylazo-2-naphthol-3:6-disulphonic acid.	80
Rhodamine 6G	ethyl ester of 9-o-carboxyphenyl-3:6-di(ethylamino)xanthen 3-chloride,	752
Orange G	di-sodium salt of 1-phenylazo-2-naphthol-6:8-disulphonic acid.	27
Orange RN	sodium salt of 1-phenylazo-2-naphthol-6-sulphonic acid.	26
Oil yellow GG	a mixture of 4-phenylazoresorcinol and 4:6-di(phenylazo) resorcinol.	23
Tartrazine	tri-sodium salt of 5-hydroxy-1- <i>p</i> -sulphophenyl-4- <i>p</i> -sulphophenylazopyrazole-3-carboxylic acid.	640
Naphthol yellow S.	di-sodium or di-potassium salt of 2:4-di-nitro-1-naphthol-7-sulphonic acid.	10
Yellow 2G	di-sodium salt of 1-(2:5-di-chloro-4-sulphophenyl)-5-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-p-sulphophenylazopyrazole.	639
Yellow RFS	di-sodium salt of 4-sulpho-4'-(sulphomethylamino) azobenzene.	_
Yellow RY	di-sodium salt of 6-p-sulphophenylazoresorcinol-4-sulphonic acid.	_
Sunset yellow FCF.	di-sodium salt of 1-p-sulphophenylazo-2-naphthol-6-sulphonic acid.	_
Oil yellow XP	3-methyl-1-phenyl-4-(2:4-xylylazo)-5-pyrazolone.	_
Green S	sodium salt of di-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-2-hydroxy-6:8-di- sulphonaphthylmethanol anhydride.	737
Blue VRS	sodium salt of 4:4'-di (diethylamino)-4":6"-disulphotriphenyl- methanol anhydride.	672
Indigo carmine	di-sodium salt of indigotin-5:5'-disulphonic acid.	1180
Violet 5BN	sodium salt of 4-diethylamino-4': 4"-di-(N-ethyl-4-sulphoben- zylamino)triphenylmethanol anhydride.	698
Violet 6B	sodium salt of: -4:4'-di-(N-ethyl-4-sulphobenzylamino)-4"-di- methylaminotriphenylmethanol anhydride.	697
Brown FK	a mixture consisting essentially of the di-sodium salt of 1:3- diamino-4:6-di-(p-sulphophenylazo) benezene and the	
Chocolate	sodium salt of 2:4-diamino-5-(p-sulphophenylazo) toluene. the product of coupling diazotised naphthionic acid with a	_
brown FB Chocolate	mixture (Colour Index No. 1232) of morin and maclurin. di-sodium salt of 2:4-dihydroxy-3:5-di-(4-sulpho-l-naphthyl-	_
brown HT Black PN	azo)benzyl alcohol. tetra-sodium salt of 8-acetamido-2-(7-sulpho-4- <i>p</i> -sulphophenyl-azo-1-naphthylazo)-1-naphthol-3:5-disulphonic acid.	_
	The state of the s	

Notes: 1. The aluminium or calcium salts (lakes) of any of the listed water-soluble colours may also be permitted. 2. The inclusion of the mixed colours ponceau MX, oil yellow GG, brown FK,chocolate brown FB and of chocolate brown HT is subject to verification that those colours can be produced constant in composition.

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE Board of Trade announces that the Token Import Scheme will continue in 1956 for imports from Canada and the United States of America on the same basis as in 1955.

Cash and property valued at £180 was stolen on the night of December 8-9 from the shop of O. Tobin, Ltd, chemists, Whitechapel Road, London, E.1.

Fire badly damaged a three-story warehouse of the Westbrook Lanolin Co., Laisterdyke, Bradford, Yorks, early on December 24. The fire will not affect production at the company's works.

CUSTOMERS were flung to the floor and three display windows were blown out when ether exploded in the pharmacy of Mr. M. Mackenzie, M.P.S., Horsley Hill Square, South Shields, co. Durham, recently.

MR. R. Turton (Minister of Health) has appointed Mr. P. Benner his private secretary and Mr. E. F. Cooper his assistant private secretary. He has appointed Mr. W. M. F. Vane his parliamentary private secretary.

A REPORT by Dr. J. L. Troupin of the World Health Organisation shows that in twenty-two countries there is one doctor for 20,000 or more inhabitants, and that in fourteen countries there is one doctor to every 1,000 or fewer inhabitants.

THE Executive of the British Pharmaceutical Conference has appointed its chairman (Professor K. Bullock), immediate past-chairman (Professor J. P. Todd) and senior secretary (Mr. H. G. Rolfe) to serve on the editorial committee of the Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology.

An electric saw to assist in the rebuilding of their home and plantation in Grenada, West Indies, which was destroyed by the hurricane "Janet" in September, has been sent to the owners of one of the largest cocoa and nutmeg plantations in the island by Radiol Chemicals, Ltd.

Scott & Turner, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are planting 15,000 cuttings from wild roses on an old pit heap in Northumberland which has been leased to the company by the National Coal Board. Hips from the roses will be collected and used in the manufacture of rose hip syrup.

A DUTCH vaccine to combat foot and mouth disease was reported at a recent international conference of veterinary surgeons in Amsterdam to have given "extremely successful results"; a new method of growing the virus, in cultures of swine or bovine kidney cells, was announced from Washington recently.

First four Burmese students taking a pharmaceutical course in England were guests of honour at a dinner party given by Evans Medical Supplies, Ltd., Speke, Liverpool, on December 19; also present were Professors H. Berry (dean of the School of Pharmacy, London University) and J. P. Todd (head of the School of Pharmacy, Royal Technical College, Glasgow).

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

The Little More . . .

In a recent paragraph dealing with the regional conference at Southampton (p. 653), I expressed myself as being puzzled by a statement made by Mr. J. C. Bloomfield on the subject of unqualified assistants. It may be recalled that I was commenting on a speech in which Mr. Bloomfield was reported as having said that the first and only time that any question of unqualified assistants had been discussed by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society was at its most recent meeting, when it came up in a communication from the Society of Apothecaries in connection with their education policy. I finished my paragraph with the words: "There must be some explanation of Mr. Bloomfield's statement, but I confess myself unable to see it at the moment." The explanation has since been forthcoming in a most courteous letter from Mr. Fred ·Murley, who acted as secretary to the regional conference. Mr. Murley points out that the omission of a few words from the report of Mr. Bloomfield's statement altered its sense. The words were "during the time that he (Mr. Bloomfield) had been a Council member." That, of course, makes all the difference.

Mainly Educational

The December meeting of the Council has been productive of more information than is customary, and all of it is of great interest to the ordinary member of the Society, as well as to the actual or prospective "fellow." The Fellowship position is not very clear, and it seems that clarification of some points is desirable. For example, a young pharmacist may, under conditions of advice and proper supervision in a department of a university, engage in original research in a subject with strong pharmaceutical connections, and may, on completion of a thesis, be awarded a Ph.D by his university. Could the same work be submitted to the Pharmaceutical Society, along with £12 12s., for a Fellowship award? It would be difficult to deny the applicant's right. And if a previous award for the work was no barrier, then the assessors appointed by the Council would find themselves in an awkward situation if there were a conflict of opinion between the university and themselves. The hypothetical case of the two young pharmacists, of equal age and achievement, posed in your editorial article, need not arise if the advice of Gilbert's Robin Oakapple is taken to heart:

> My boy, you may take it from me, That of all the afflictions accurst With which a man's saddled And hampered and addled A diffident nature's the worst. Though clever as clever can be— A Crichton of early romance— You must stir it and stump it, And blow your own trumpet, Or, trust me, you haven't a chance!

Aberdeen

Having entertained the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1955, Aberdeen maintains its place in the pharmaceutical picture with a letter to the Council from its technical college, intimating disagreement with the conditions approved by the Society for the training of students. The letter intimates that the governors of the college have decided to recommend students to take the three years' academic course in consecutive years, either before or after apprenticeship. It seems to be a "recommendation" with a thinly-veiled threat, in that students proceeding to practical training at the end of the Intermediate year cannot be guaranteed a place two years later for the Qualifying course. If, as has been suggested, the Council decides to insist on the Intermediate being taken before practical training—a sensible procedure to many—there will be a complete disappearance in Aberdeen of the student with practical experience.

"MIXED BAG" AT EDINBURGH MEETING

An old "patent" medicine; incompatibilities; a tablet machine; and history

SHORT talks on a variety of subjects were given by members of the Edinburgh and South-eastern Scottish Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at a meeting held on December 2.

at a meeting held on December 2.

A document 261 years old, relating to Dr. Anderson's "True Scots Pills," was displayed by the first speaker, MR. W. Hennigan, who described "A Seventeenth-century Patent Medicine." Mr. Hennigan outlined the life story of the owner of the patent for those pills, Patrick Anderson. The parchment exhibited, said Mr. Hennigan, was one of a series still in existence which substantiated the claim of Dr. Anderson's pills to be the oldest authenticated proprietary medicine surviving within living memory. Patrick Anderson claimed to be a doctor of medicine, though there might be doubt whether he held an authentic degree. He was renowned as a practitioner in Edinburgh, London and Paris, being known on the continent as early as 1603, and was reputed to have been physician to two kings—James I and Charles I.

Grana Angelica

In 1628, Dr. Anderson published a book entitled Grana Angelica, a treatise written in Latin describing the pills of which he was proprietor. The book incorporated verses, also written in Latin, extolling the merits of the pills, and composed by various grateful users. Later, each box of pills was accompanied by a leaflet, which was a translation of the main part of Grana Angelica. In view of the name "True Scots" pills, it was somewhat remarkable that Dr. Anderson did not conceal the fact that he obtained the formula in Venice.

There was, said the speaker, considerable doubt as to the original formula of the pills. Although it was alleged to be deposited in Rolls House, the Public Records Office could not trace it. The original letters patent granted to Dr. Thomas Weir by King James II in 1687 could be seen in the Register House, Edinburgh. The French Codex published the following recipe under the heading "Pilules Ecossaises" or "Pilules d'Anderson":—

son :--

Dr. Weir, an Edinburgh surgeon, had the secret communicated to him by Katherine Anderson after the death of her father, under an assignation dated December 15, 1686 and the registration in Edinburgh Commissary Court books was dated December 17, 1686. Both were now available in the Scottish Records Office. The pills were so popular that they were imitated, and attempts to curb that piracy were evidenced by issue of letters of certification by King William and Queen Mary in 1694. Edinburgh town council issued a "testification" on August 23 of that year, making it known that

only those pills prepared by Thomas Werr were genuine. That document was still in existence.

After Dr. Weir's death in 1711, his widow became the proprietor and subsequently their son Alexander held the rights until 1726, in which year a sister Lillias, took them over. In 1770 Lillias Weir's nephew, Dr. Thomas Irving, succeeded to the proprietorship and his widow did likewise in 1797. At that time the pills were sold in one of the "Lands" of the Lawnmarket, nowadays known as Milne's Court, and in the house was preserved a glove which had belonged to Dr. Anderson. There was also a portrait of the doctor and his daughter.

After Mrs. Irving's death, one other private individual, a Mr. Rodger, held the patent, which he disposed of, in 1875, to a firm of wholesale druggists, in whose hands it had remained ever since. The pills continued to be sold until just before the 1914-18 war, and their last appearance in a catalogue had been in 1916. The pack sold latterly had been a small wooden box, containing thirty pills, and in every price list from 1842 to 1914 the retail price had been quoted as 1s. 1½d. each, the wholesale rate being 10d. per dozen—a record of stability which seemed fantastic to the present generation of pharmacists.

With each box of pills had been issued a leaflet giving details of the therapeutic indications and dosage. The claims made might appear extravagant judged by present day standards, but at the time of their introduction all kinds of revolting concoctions were still in use, and Anderson's pills had probably revolutionised treatment of many maladies in much the same way as chemotherapeutic agents and antibiotics had done in more recent times.

The next speaker was MR. ERIC KNOTT, who gave a talk on some interesting prescriptions which had been

presented for dispensing to chemists in the Branch during the past few months.

The first was an eye-lotion containing zinc sulphate, borax and alum, which on dispensing gave a white flocculent precipitate. A clear solution was obtained by replacing the borax with an equivalent quantity of boric acid.

The next, a mixture containing liquid extracts of grindelia and liquorice, also gave a precipitate, possibly due to acidity of the grindelia causing the precipitation of glycyrrhizin from the liquorice. The addition of a few drops of solution of ammonia was found to clear the precipitate immediately.

In a mixture containing ac. acetyl salicyl, sod. bicarb., mist. mag. hydrox., syr. tolu and aq. chlorof., the amount of solids in the bottle varied according to the method of dispensing. If the acetyl salicylic acid and magnesia mixture were triturated together an almost clear solution resulted, a soluble magnesium acetyl salicylate being formed, but if the bicarbonate of soda was mixed with the acetyl salicylic acid and water and then the magnesia mixture added, a considerable amount of solid remained.

A prescription for nasal drops containing sulphathiazole sodium and ephedrine hydrochloride gave a precipitate when dispensed because the alkalinity of the sodium sulphathiazole was neutralised by the ephedrine hydrochloride. A suitable preparation was produced by the use of sulphathiazole and ephedrine hydrochloride.

The third speaker in the programme was MR. J. LIDDELL, who exhibited a percussion type of tablet machine and demonstrated the method of making tablets with such a piece of apparents.

tablets with such a piece of apparatus.
Lastly, Mr. C. G. Drummond outlined the work of the recently formed History of Pharmacy Committee of the Society's Council, and gave a short talk on an old Edinburgh pharmacy.

FESTIVE OCCASIONS

ROMFORD

Record Number at Party

Over ninety members and friends—a record—attended the fifth annual Christmas party of Romford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at Hornchurch on December 7 and a buffet meal was provided.

DURHAM

President Guest-of-Honour

GUEST of honour at the annual dinner and dance of Durham County Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was Mr. H. Steinman (the Society's president). Mr. Steinman responded to the toast to the Society which was proposed by Councillor H. L. Cawood (Mayor of Durham). The health of the visitors was proposed by Mr. J. Calderwood (Branch chairman), and Mr. W. R. B. Sheldon, Newcastle-on-Tyne, replied. Bouquets to Mrs. Steinman, the Mayoress and Mrs. Calderwood were

presented by Miss E. Gray (Branch vice-chairman).

ISLE OF THANET

Birdsgrove House "in Colour"

A SERIES of colour transparencies of a tour of the house and grounds at Birdsgrove House (the Pharmaceutical Society's convalescent home) was shown during the interval at the annual dinner and dance of the Isle of Thanet Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at Margate on December 15. Some members and their friends from the Dover and Folkestone and East Kent Branches brought the total company to eighty. The colour transparencies had been loaned by Mr. T. Reid (a member of the Society's Council) who had also provided a taperecorded commentary. A competition which was held in aid of the Birdsgrove House Fund realised the sum of £7 78, 6d.

LIVERPOOL

£150 for Benevolent Fund

THE Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society is receiving about £150—proceeds from the dance held by Liverpool Chemists' Association recently. About 240 people attended and a competition realised £35.

WATFORD AND ST. ALBANS Society's Registrar Attends

THE annual dinner and dance of Watford and St. Albans Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held at St. Albans recently. The toast to the Pharmaceutical Society was proposed by Mr. G. N. Crowe (Branch chairman) and the response was from Mr. F. W. Adams (a secretary and the registrar of the Society).

PLYMOUTH

Gift Cheques Presented

CHEQUES for the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society and for the Christmas cheer fund of the lord mayor of Plymouth were presented at

the annual dinner and dance of the Plymouth Branch of the Society on December 7. Principal guests were the lord mayor and lady mayoress of Plymouth and Mr. Granville Shaw (vicepresident of the Pharmaceutical Society). In proposing the toast of the Pharmaceutical Society, THE LORD MAYOR said that any society which had been in operation for over one hundred years deserved praise from the community. Responding, Mr. GRANVILLE Shaw, after paying tribute to the new city of Plymouth which was arising from the ashes of destruction, traced the development of the Pharmaceutical Society from the historic meeting of its founders at a London inn to its present position. Mr. G. Large (chairman) presented the gift cheques to the lord mayor and to Mr. Granville Shaw.

COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE

Poor Pharmacists of Learnington?

PHARMACISTS in the spa town of Learnington must find it difficult to eke out a living if the remarks of its mayor are any guide. Members of Coventry and Warwickshire Branch of the Pharmacist Property of the Pharmacist Property of the Pharmacist Property of the Pharmacists of the Pharmacists of the Pharmacists of the Pharmacists of Learnington?

maceutical Society held their annual dinner and dance at Leamington, recently, and were jovially told by Councillor E. A. Baxter (mayor) that they were in the "one and only town" where their services were not required. The air is so clean and pure in this beautiful town that no pharmacists are needed," he said. "But I can well understand that they are in demand in Coventry!" Principal guest was Mr. Granville Shaw (vice-president of the Society) who replied to the toast of the Pharmaceutical Society. He spoke of the history of the Society and said that it had done much to improve the status of the chemist and druggist. He added that the status of the profession depended on the attention which the individual pharmacist was willing to give the public. "The Minister of Health and the public are, I think, very proud of the way in which the National Health Service is being handled by pharmacists," he said. "It has meant a great increase in work.' Other speakers at the dinner included Mr. D. S. Aitken (Branch chairman) and Mr. L. Bonham.

BRANCH AND ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

NORTH LONDON

Continental Holidays

A TALK on "Continental Holidays," illustrated with colour film, was given to the North London Pharmaceutical Association at a recent meeting, by a representative of Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd. The lecturer commented on the extent to which travel facilities were made use of especially coach travel. Each year, he said, more people were exploring the highways and byways of Europe. To pharmacists, the opportunity to study Continental pharmacy was an added inducement to travel.

WATFORD AND ST. ALBANS

Joint Meeting with Doctors

ABOUT seventy doctors and pharmacists were present at a joint meeting of the Watford and St. Albans Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Watford Branch of the British Medical Association held at Watford on December 2. An address on "The Use and Abuse of Antibiotics" was given by Dr. E. J. Stokes (clinic of bacteriology, University College Hospital, London), who said that antibiotics should be reserved for cases of serious illness, but when their desirability was established they must be used in adequate doses. Many questions were put to Dr Stokes.

DURHAM

Pre-graduate Training Better

THAT pre-graduate apprenticeship was of more value than one served after passing the Qualifying examination was shown by the low standard in the practical side of entries for the Pharmaceutical Society's prizes, said MR. J. C. BLOOMFIELD (a member of the Society's Council) addressing a meeting of the Durham County Branch of the Society held on December 1, Mr. Bloomfield said that the Council was alarmed at the low standard of the entries. In 1955

only isolated awards were made, as in some cases there was no entry reaching the standard required. The British Pharmacopæia Commission had decided to approach the General Medical Council with a view to removing apothecary doses from the British Pharmacopæia, 1963. During the discussion. a member suggested that the Society should only support that move when all doctors prescribed in the metric system, MR. BLOOMFIELD spoke of the monopolies inquiry as it affected the Proprietary Articles Trade Association. The Commission, he said, had not completely condemned a well-thought-out price-fixing scheme, but only the enforcement of sanctions against a "cutter." The Government was in favour of protection in a suitable form, and all systems would be put before a completely neutral tribunal. In the discussion following, the tendency to longer hours, in disregard of rota arrangements, was condemned. Mr. Bloomfield said that the majority of Branches and members of Council viewed that with disfavour but the steps to curb it were not easy to take. The Council were considering a resolution from the Branch Representatives' meeting. The Branch unanimously adopted a resolution to be sent to the Council, stating that "it is the opinion meeting. of this meeting that adherence to the hours of opening agreed with the local Executive Council shall be constituted a part of the Statement on Matters of Professional Conduct, but that any recommendation by the Pharmaceutical Committee in an area, to provide any extra service proved necessary, shall not be deemed a breach of such a part of the Statement.

THE NEW MINISTER OF HEALTH

Mr. R. H. Turton

MR. R. H. TURTON, M.C., who has succeeded Mr. Iain Macleod as



Minister (s e e Health C. & D., December 24, p. 705) moves to his new post from the Foreign Office where he was a Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary. He was born in 1903 and edu-cated at Eton Balliol a n d College, Ox-

ford, taking his degree in Lit.Hum. In 1926 he was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple and until 1935 he practised on the North-eastern Circuit. He has been a Member of Parliament

since 1929. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of National Insurance in 1951, and on the merging of that Ministry with the Ministry of Pensions in September 1953 he became Joint Parliamentary Secretary. In October 1954 he was appointed Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. In June 1955 he was appointed a member of the Privy Council. He was secretary of the Conservative 1922 committee in the 1935 Parliament and vice-chairman of the committee in 1949 and 1950. He filled the offices of secretary and treasurer of the Conservative agricultural committee at various periods between 1935 and 1950, and was chairman of the Conservative Africa committee in the 1945 Parliament. In March 1955 he went to Iraq in order to sign the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty on behalf of the Government. He owns a 500-acre farm.

LEGAL REPORTS

Noise Normal Among Shops

An ophthalmic optician who complained that a dancing academy above his surgery interfered with his work failed to get an injunction in the Court of Appeal on December 16. The Master of the Rolls and Lords Justice Birkett and Romer held that the optician, Mr. Boris Whycer, Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill, London, N.21, could not expect complete freedom from distracting noise in such a shopping locality.

Manufacturer's Van Stolen

AT Dewsbury, Yorks, on December 6, David McLean, labourer, Parker Road, Thornhill Lees, was remanded in custody for a week on charges of entering the warehouse of J. Brown & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Savile Town, Dewsbury, and stealing a van valued at £500; and of taking a vehicle with-out consent. McLean was alleged to have jumped from the moving van, leaving it to collide with a police car. Applying for a remand, the chief con-stable of Dewsbury said the van was being driven in Horbury when it was overtaken by a West Riding police car, which signalled it to stop. The van was quitted by the driver and collided with the police car. The driver was chased across fields but was not caught. McLean was later interviewed by the police. At first he denied stealing the van, but later was alleged to have made a voluntary statement admitting the theft.

Drivers' Excessive Hours

FINES totalling £31 were imposed at Oldham, recently, on Kaputine, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Boardman Street, Oldham, for allowing their lorry drivers to drive more than the statutory number of hours and failing to take proper rest periods. Four drivers were fined a total of £35 for committing the offences. The prosecution pointed out that drivers should not drive for more than eleven hours in twenty-four, and should have a rest period of at least ten consecutive hours. "The Act was framed to protect the public from the danger caused by drivers who are overtired," he said. An inspection of the company's records showed that some men had driven as much as 14³ hours in 24. A director of the company said that the drivers normally went out for three days at a time on journeys which an experienced man could cover in an average of eight hours a day; notices were posted in the garage explaining the regulations.

Spider in Mixture

At the Liverpool stipendiary magistrate's court, on December 21, Giles & Tattersall, Ltd., chemists, 105 Scotland Road, Liverpool, were fined £20 on a summons alleging that, on September 12, they sold to the prejudice of the Liverpool Executive Council a drug not of the quality demanded. The company changed its plea during the case to. guilty. It was alleged that, as she hurried home with a bottle of medicine for her sick two-month-old baby, a young Liverpool mother saw a dead

spider floating on the liquid. Mr. A. D. H. Johnstone (chief food inspector for Liverpool) said he saw the dead spider floating on the medicine in a securely corked bottle. At the chemist's shop the same day he was shown the stock bottle of the preparation, which was entirely closed with a screw top. The linctus was completely clear. The back of the shop and the dispensary were then in a filthy state, added Mr. Johnstone, but when he visited the premises later they had been cleaned up.

A Manager Cleared

THE manager of a chemist's shop in Manchester was cleared of a theft charge by the Manchester stipendiary magistrate on December 22, after a hearing lasting two-and-a-half days. Harold James Colls, Sandown Drive, Sale, manager of the St. Peter's Square, Manchester, branch of Boots, Ltd., denied stealing goods worth £2 from the shop. In evidence, Collis said he had a half-share in a chemist's business in Leicester. For ten years he had been quite openly conducting exchange transactions between Boots and the Leicester firm, always ensuring a proper and fair balance to Boots. Dealing with cash totalling £1,250 found in the company's safe and at a locked desk, Collis said his father had given him £750 cash which he had not banked because he hoped to use it in a business of his own. For Collis it was stated that the prosecution had suggested that the presence of the money indicated a system of wrongdoing by Collis extending over many years, "but the tending over many years, "but the firm's premises is the last place in the world to keep proceeds of depredations."

Interim Trade-mark Injunction

In the Chancery Division, London, on December 20, Maria Hornes, Ltd., Davies Street, London, W.1, moved for an interim injunction to restrain Zygmunt Continental Drug Stores, Ltd., Baker Street, London, from infringing plaintiffs' trade mark Egosyl (registered for non-medicated toilet and cosmetic preparations, and in particular, skin creams) by selling goods under the name Ego or any other name so nearly resembling the plaintiffs' trade mark as to be calculated to deceive. For the plaintiffs it was stated that Egosyl was a beauty preparation for the skin. It was introduced in September 1953 and had received a great deal of publicity.

deal of publicity.

MR. JUSTICE DANCKWERTS: I see that "cream and an egg keep wrinkles at bay."—Counsel: That is what plaintiffs say.

Counsel added that Egosyl was sold in a large number of shops, stores and beauty parlours in the United Kingdom. In October a Sunday newspaper carried an article headed "Beauty Spot" about the defendants' skin cream. They referred to it as "Dr. Zygmunt's Ego phosphorous cream." The cream was said to restore elasticity to the skin. The plaintiffs purchased a jar and found the word Ego used prominently on the label.

For the defendants it was said that they had been selling Dr. Zygmunt's preparations and had no knowledge of

Egosyl until they received a letter from the plaintiffs' solicitors. The get-up of the two products was different, and there was no evidence of any confusion having arisen. Counsel contended that plaintiffs were not entitled to a monopoly in the word Ego, which was not registrable as a trade mark. There was no evidence to support the alleged passing-off, or of deception. The judge said that there was a sufficient primafacie case of infringement of trade mark by use of the word Ego. word was bound to cause confusion, and he would grant plaintiffs the injunction asked for until judgment in the action or further order. The costs of the motion would be costs in the action. It was later stated by plain-tiffs' counsel that the parties had agreed to treat the motion as the trial of the action. The defendants would submit to a permanent injunction as claimed and would pay the plaintiffs' costs. There would be no inquiry as to damages.

HIS LORDSHIP: That will dispose of the action?—Yes. The order will be by consent.

BUSINESS CHANGES

THE JARROW & HEBBURN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD., have opened a pharmacy at 96 Boldon Lane, South Shields, co. Durham.

JEYES-IBCO SALES, LTD., Millbrook, Manor Road, Chigwell, Essex, are to act as the sole selling agency for Jeyes and Ibco products.

MR. JOHN H. ADAMS, M.P.S., 30 High Street, Shrewsbury, has acquired the business of the late Mr. G. J. Griffiths at 3 Market Street, Shrewsbury. The business and staff are being transferred to Market Street on January 14, 1956, and the High Street premises which have been a pharmacy for about 150 years are being closed.

Appointments

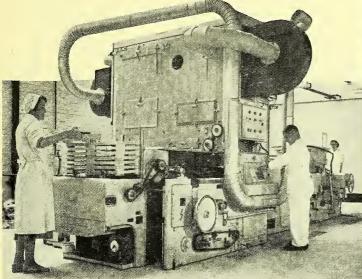
ST. ANDREW MILLS, LTD., have appointed Mr. D. Rochester-Balmer, 17 Larchwood Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 3, their representative for Durham and Northumberland; and Mr. J. E. Greenhill, 20 Woodlesford Crescent, Mount Tabor, Halifax, for Yorkshire.

AYRTON, SAUNDERS & CO., LTD., 34 Hanover Street, Liverpool, 1, have appointed Mr. R. H. Scott to succeed Mr. S. Black as their representative in Northern Ireland.

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUS-TRIES, LTD., have appointed Mr. Gordon Long and Mr. A. Q. Tollit assistant publicity controllers under Mr. B. W. Galvin Wright. Mr. Long will continue to be responsible for the publicity and information sections of the central publicity department, in-cluding the Press section (Mr. Geoffrey Richards is the Press officer). Mr. Tollit is being transferred from his present position as publicity manager of Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd., and will be responsible for the commercial advertising section of the department. That will allow Mr. W. J. Marrable to concentrate upon the company's expanding exhibitions programme. Mr. Marrable is due to retire in 1957.

wheeled into drying ovens. Below: The slippery-elm food department.

A SUCCESSFUL REORGANISATION



Starch from used moulds is fed into the Mogul (left) for drying and re-use.

NEARLY five years ago, Potter & Clarke, Ltd., a company with a long and distinguished record within the drug trade, decided on a reorganisation. The decision was a bold one, entailing a sharp risk. The manufacture of galenicals was to cease. The range of herbal specialities for which the company was famous was to be discontinued—or rather transferred to an unrelated company, Potters (Herbal Supplies), Ltd., Wigan (formed largely by ex-employees of Potter & Clarke. by ex-employees of Potter & Clarke, Ltd.), producing and supplying the trade under a royalty agreement.

Concentration

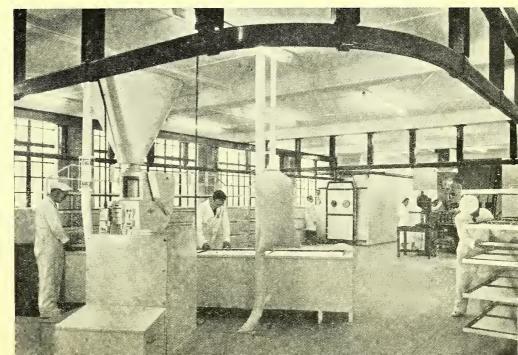
The buildings and plant at Artillery Lane, Casson Street and Fairclough Street in East London, were put up for sale and manufacture was concentrated at the modern factory in River Road, Barking. An uphill fight lay ahead, but in 1954 the reorganised company again found itself making profits. Sale of the redundant stock and premises at about the same time and premises at about the same time cleared off the overdraft at the bank and left a substantial balance for installing new plant and in bringing the stalling new plant and in bringing the factory at Barking as up-to-date as the pictures show it to be. The principal improvement was to install the most modern plant for manufacturing Thompson's slippery elm food. Today the food is made and packed at Barking. Edge-runner mills grind the bark to an extremely fine powder. A farinaceous ingredient is sifted and spread on to standard trays in uniform layers. The trays are loaded on to floats that are conveyed in pairs by monorail into ovens to be wheeled out "cooked" and untouched by hand.

A second major improvement was to install a fully automatic Mogul ma-

install a fully automatic Mogul machine for making Potter's catarrh pastilles, replacing a semi-automatic ma-chine. The new Mogul incorporates the starch cleaning and drying plant. New pastille-drying cupboards of

On the other side of the machine the new moulds emerge and are filled, row by row, from the hot reservoir of pastille material. hot reservoir of The trays in tiers on trolleys are

Impressions of a recent visit to the River Road, Barking, works of Potter & Clarke, Ltd.



latest design were built and thousands of new pouring trays were made. The department now makes Potter's catarrh pastilles and many tons of pastilles for other companies. An up-to-date department for tableting has been established, specialising in long runs of tablets for other companies. Potter's asthma remedy and Thompson's dandelion coffee and other proprietaries continue to be manufactured.

Certain staff changes come into effect on January 1, 1956. Mr. L. J. Critchell has been appointed sales manager; Mr. E. W. Peek, production and works manager; Mr. F. R. Comber, A.R.I.C., analyst; and Mr. J. Stephens, A.C.C.S., company secretary. Colonel R. W. Wren, M.P.S., is chairman and managing director. man and managing director.

IN PARLIAMENT

By a Member of the Press Gallery, House of Commons

MR. HEATHCOAT AMORY (Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) told Mrs. J. S. BUTLER on December 12 that the number of bottles of concentrated orange juice issued under the welfare scheme in Great Britain in 1951, in millions, was 36·7; in 1952, 38·6; 1953, 34·2; 1954, 30·9; the number of bottles of cod-liver oil issued, in millions, in 1951 was 9.7; 1952, 9.5; 1953, 7.8; and 1954, 6.8.

Miss P. Hornsby-Smith (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health) told Mr. C. R. Bence, in a written answer on December 12, that the Minister of Health was satisfied that the concentrated orange juice provided under the Welfare Foods Service was a good source of vitamin C and he was advised that children who were too young to obtain an adequate supply of that vitamin as part of their ordinary diet were in need of a supplement of that kind. The Minister's view was that all young children needed an adequate supply of vitamin D in their diet and cod-liver oil was an excellent source of that particular vitamin.

New Valuation Lists

MR. D. SANDYS (Minister of Housing and Local Government) told MR. R. G. PAGE, in a written answer on December 21 that as soon as all the new valuation lists had been sent to the rating authorities he would issue a statement of the total rateable value for England and Wales, and the totals for each county, county borough and metropolitan borough. When the necessary statistical analyses had been completed, he would publish a White Paper giving comparative tables of rateable values in the new lists and in the current lists as at December 1, 1955. The tables would give, for each county, borough, and metropolitan county borough, separate totals for the following classes of property: houses and flats; shops; other commercial and miscellaneous premises; Crown property; industrial hereditaments, apportioned between industrial and nonindustrial purposes; and freight-transport hereditaments, apportioned between transport purposes and nontransport purposes. He emphasised that an increase in the rateable value of a district would normally result in a reduction of the rate in the pound and would not therefore necessarily imply an increase in the amount payable. Individual ratepayers or groups of ratepayers would consequently not be able to judge how the new valuation lists would affect them until the rates in the pound were announced by the rating authorities

about the beginning of April. A leaflet containing further information would be available at the places where the lists were open to inspection by members of the public.

Monopolies Commission

MR. D. WALKER-SMITH (Parliamentary Secretary, Board of Trade) told SIR H. ROPER, in a written answer on December 20, that the Minister was aware that inquiries by the Monopolies Commission necessarily put the industries concerned to considerable trouble but, so far as he knew, without damaging effects on business. He would not introduce legislation by which industries would be compensated in respect of costs and losses in those cases where the Commission or Government decided that their practices did not operate against the public interest.

Monopolies Bill

MR. D. WALKER-SMITH (Parliamentary Secretary, Board of Trade) told MR. C. L. HALE, in a written answer on December 21 that the proposed Monopolies Bill would be introduced as soon as possible after Parliament re-assembled. [The Bill is expected to deal with the registration of specified restrictive practices.—EDITOR.]

Manufacture and Stocks of Heroin

LORD MANCROFT (Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department) told VISCOUNT ELIBANK in the House of Lords on December 21 that Section 9 of the Danger-ous Drugs Act, 1951, empowered the Secretary of State to make regulations for controlling the manufacture of certain drugs including heroin by prohibiting their manufacture except by persons licensed or otherwise authorised and upon premises licensed by a Secretary of State and subject to any conditions specified in the licence or authority, and regulations had been made accord-The Secretary of State was advised that it was proper for him to limit the manufacture of the drugs to such quantities as were required for legitimate use. Licensed manufacturers and wholesalers had been required, as a condition of their licences, to make quarterly returns of stocks since the ratification of the Limitation Convention of 1931. There was available at the moment with the wholesalers about nine months' supply, at the normal rate of demand. That took no account whatever of stocks already in hospitals, chemists' shops and doctors and veterinary surgeons had. Obviously, it would require a complicated stock-taking process to discover how much that was.

DEATHS

COX. — Recently, Mr. Trevor John Cox, M.P.S., 61 Stoneygate Road, Leicester, aged fifty-seven. Mr. Cox was an area director and territorial general manager of Boots, Ltd.

NOWELL.—On December 16, Mr. John Percy Lewis Ducket Nowell, M.P.S., 25 Park Parade, Harlesden, London, N.W.10, aged eighty.

PETERKIN.—In hospital in Elgin, Morays, on December 23, Mr. James Calder Peterkin, M.P.S., 6 Pitgaveny Lossiemouth, Morays. Peterkin qualified in 1920. He married Mrs. Ishbel Ridgley (daughter of the late Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, a former Prime Minister of Great Britain) in February 1953.

TEUNION .-- At a nursing home in Carlisle on December 17, Miss Mary Teunion, M.P.S., High Street, Eccle-fechan, Dumfries. Miss Teunion qualified in 1911.

PERSONALITIES

MR. P. BEEVERS, a director of W. A. Wharram, Ltd., Leeds, celebrates fifty years' service with the company, and his seventieth birthday, on January 1, 1956.

MR. EDWARD GURR, F.R.I.C., is the author of an article in the December 17 edition of the Board of Trade Journal. The article, entitled "Successful Exporting Needs the Personal Touch" was contributed in Touch," was contributed in response to a suggestion in that journal that small and medium-sized firms who have achieved success in the export market should pass on the benefit of their experience.

MR. STEWART BLACK, the representative in Northern Ireland for the past eighteen years for Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, 1, has resigned to take up a post in South Africa. Mr. Black joined the company in 1937, taking over the Northern Ire-land Territory from his father, who had represented the company there for many years. His uncle also was an Ayrton representative at one time.

COMPANY NEWS

KIMPTON BROTHERS, LTD.— Mr. Geoffrey L. Vincent (export manager) is to join the board on January

CHESEBROUGH-PONDS, LTD.— The announcement already made in the United States of the merger of the Chesebrough Mfg. Co. Cons'd. and Pond's Extract Co. (see C. & D., July Pond's Extract Co. (see C. & D., July 30, p. 118), is now confirmed in respect of the United Kingdom by Lieut-Colonel J. K. L. Wenham, chairman of the new company. Other directors are: Mr. F. L. Plummer, managing director; Mr. J. G. Laurie, home sales director; Mr. T. V. Coate, export sales director; Mr. W. A. G. Cuff, advertising director; Mr. R. T. Dobson, research and production director; and Mr. A. S. Davison, director and sec-Mr. A. S. Davison, director and secretary.—Mr. A. E. King reaches retiring age early in the New Year. He is best remembered as sales director of Pond's Extract Co., Ltd.

TRADE NOTES

Agent in Eire. — Duodyne, Ltd., Chapel Lane, Edinburgh, 1, state that orders for Duodyne in Eire should be placed through Mr. V. S. Egan, 29 Westland Row, Dublin.

Glass for Polio Research.—James A. Jobling & Co., Ltd., Wear Glass Works, Sunderland, state that the culture of the poliomyelitis virus was recently found to be only possible in vessels made of Pyrex-type laboratory glass. The company have produced specially large flasks and bottles for the purpose.

Skin Graft Cutter.—Pharmacists who may be responsible for the purchase of instruments for surgeons may welcome information about an instrument available from the surgical division of Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Bethnal Green, London, E.2. The A. & H. pneumatic dermatome enables intermediate skin grafts to be cut speedily and safely. The instrument which can be sterilised complete, either by boiling or by autoclaving, is suitable for grafts of any length in widths of 1½-3 in. and thicknesses up to 2 mm. without special preparation of the skin. The blades are disposable.

Products Changes. — Pharmethicals (London), Ltd., 18 Great Portland Street, London, W.1, the sole distributors for Schering, A.G., Berlin, Germany, announce that Biligrafin I.V. and I.V. Forte methyl glucaminate of N, N-adipic - di(3-amino - 2,4,6-triiodobenzoic acid) are alone being issued in future. The first is a 30 per cent. and the second a 50 per cent. concentration. Formerly Biligrafin I.V. consisted of a 20 per cent. solution of sodium N, N-adipic-di(3-amino-2,4,6-triiodobenzoic acid). The iodine content of Biligrafin I.V. 30 per cent. is equivalent to that of Biligrafin I.V. 20 per cent. sodium salt.

Leipzig Fairs to Last Longer.—The 1956 Leipzig spring fair is being extended by one day and the autumn fair by two days. The administration has made available for British firms covered and outdoor space totalling nearly 22,000 square feet. Already that space has been over-booked, and the British collective display, which has been a feature of the last two technical fairs, is expected to be the most impressive yet achieved, say the organisers. The spring fair is from February 26 to March 8, and the autumn fair, September 2-September 9. Visitors must have an official fair identity card, which can be obtained from the London agents of the fair, 127 Oxford Street, W.1, and from the Chambers of Commerce in Edinburgh and Glasgow. Visas will be issued on arrival at the control-points between West and East Germany. There are no other formalities. A special concession is the issue of vouchers, which will be available to foreign visitors at three prices, approximately £3 5s., £2 10s. and £1 15s. The voucher will provide a visitor with all his needs for a day including meals, accommodation and drinks.

Winning Swimmers' Vitamins. — Crookes halibut oil capsules were among four specialities of the Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., Park Royal, London, N.W.10, that penetrated the Iron Curtain with the British swimming team which recently achieved success in Moscow. The other products were Karvol inhalant capsules, glucose B-D,

and iodine oil. All were chosen by the team's manager to accompany them on this important sporting expedition, in which the British team achieved three firsts as well as several good placings.





FOR CHILDREN AND BABIES: Produced by the Halex division of British Xylonite Co., Ltd., Higham's Park, London, W.4, the kitten, elephant and panda place mats, illustrated left, are available in pink, blue, white and biscuit colours. The mats are made of flexible plastic.—With the comb and brush in the set shown (right) is a rattle in the same ivory, pink or blue colour as the comb or brush back.

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

For Sluggish Livers. — International Chemical Co., Ltd., Chenies Street, London, W.C.1, are introducing in January 1956 a new product Biladin tablets "for coated tongue and sluggish liver." Each tablet contains sodium tauroglycocholate, ipomæa resin, podophyllum resin, aloes, dry extract of colocynth, capsicin and magnesium carbonate

Fertilisers and Garden Sundries.—A new range of fertilisers and associated garden sundries is being made available this year from Mason (Omoa), Ltd. The company is well known in farming and commercial market gardening and fruit growing spheres but has hitherto confined itself to bulk marketing. Mason's May-sun manures and sundries comprise a comprehensive selection covering the probable requirements of the amateur gardener: General horticultural fertilisers; lawn fertilisers for spring and summer and for autumn application; fruit and vegetable fertiliser; chrysanthemum base manure; chrysanthemum topdressing fertiliser; rose manure; potato manure; tomato base manure; tomato top-dressing fertiliser; sulphate of potash, dried blood; garden lime; bone meal; hoof and horn meal; superphosphates; meat and bone meal and sodium chlorate. Each is being packed in a standard-sized tin so that a full range may easily be displayed. The range may easily be displayed. label depicts a garden layout and the design and illustration attracts potential customers. The makers claim to have overcome all the principal objections to the handling of fertilisers. Each label includes analysis of the fertiliser, its price, use and application, without any necessity for lengthy explanations or for technical knowledge on the part of sales staff. The well-sealed tin container is in the most convenient size for the casual shopper and amateur gardener, and obviates the usual inconveniences of odour and dust. Burst bags become no longer a problem and the containers are protected against the acid action of fertilisers. The profit margin to the retailer is $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on the gross selling

New Cellulose Sponges. — Sponcel, Ltd., 40 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, have added to their Spontex range of cellulose toilet sponges a new fine-texture sponge size $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{16}$ in. Prices in the toilet range have been revised.

TWO COMPANIES IN MERGER

A note on their origins

THE Chesebrough Mfg. Co., the merger of which with Pond's Extract Co., Ltd., is announced on p. 738, was formed in 1874 and opened a branch in London in 1875, since when it has marketed Mr. Chesebrough's original "wonder jelly" under its brand name Vaseline petroleum jelly. During the years other Vaseline brand preparations have been added, notably Vaseline hair tonic, shampoo, hand and hair creams.

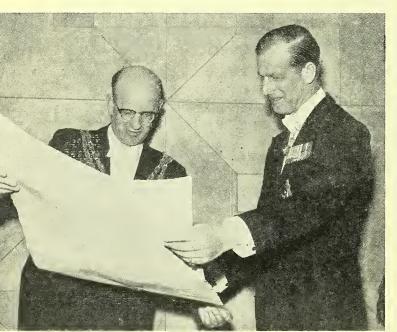
In 1846 in Utica, New York, Mr. Theron T. Pond began selling bottles of a remedy distilled from the hamamelis shrub of the Mohawk valley, He called it Pond's extract. In 1872 the Pond's Extract Co, was formed in New York. Shortly afterwards a European

branch was opened to deal with sales in that continent, In 1905 the Pond's Extract Co. developed Pond's vanishing cream and Pond's cold cream and subsequently a range of beauty products that have become household words. The company claim to have been the first to use, in their advertisements, endorsements on their creams by leaders of society. In 1924 both the Queen of Spain and the Dowager Queen Marie of Rumania allowed their photographs and endorsements for Pond's cream to appear in newspapers and magazines. The English Chesebrough plant at Willesden was opened in 1923, the Pond's plant at Perivale in 1932.

1955 month by month



JANUARY: Construction of two upper floors at the Brunswick Square buildings destined to house the School of Pharmacy, London University, nears completion. The pharmaceutics department has been in occupation for some months.



MAY: First Honorary Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Duke of Edinburgh receives the illuminated Fellowship diploma from Mr. E. A. Brocklehurst (president of the Society).





FEBRUARY: Beauty specialist Mrs. Nora Riddell advises Edinburgh wom of cosmetics and make-up.



JUNE: Professor Truhaut (faculty of Pharmacy, University of Paris) addresses final-year students at Plymouth School of Pharmacy under a scheme arranged by the Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission.



SEPTEMBER: Lett. The first telegraphed photograph of a British Pharmaceutical Conference to appear in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST shows Sir T. M. and Lady Taylor receiving guests at the reception at Aberdeen University.

OCTOBER: Above, Prize-winning members of the Irish Chemists' Golfing Society receive their awards from Mr. Michael Baynes (M. Baynes & Co.).



sts on the use



MARCH: Members of the Chicago Retail Druggists' Association on a brief visit to Britain receive a warm welcome in cold weather.



JULY: The gold medal of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland is presented to Mr. John V. Heatherington, by Mr. W. P. Ewart (the Society's president).



APRIL: A scale model of the pharmaceutical plant which is being erected near Rangoon, Burma, and operated by Evans Medical Supplies, Ltd., is presented in London to the Burmese Chargé d'Affaires.



AUGUST: Flowers of Rauwolfia serpentina are included in a bouquet presented to Mr. Pandit Nehru (Prime Minister of India) on his return to India after a visit to Russia.



DECEMBER: A model of the molecular structure of B₁₂ is shown to members of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee visiting the Greenford headquarters of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Electronic Sterilisation

Marking the first routine application of high-speed electrons in the pharmaceutical industry for commercial purposes a Van de Graaff accelerator is being used to sterilise packed drugs at the Kalamazoo, Michigan, plant of the Upjohn Co.

All-nylon Paper

The first commercial run of synthetic paper made wholly from nylon has been completed by the Riegel Paper Corporation, New York. The all-nylon paper, the company points out, is highly resistant to chemical attack, absorbs very little moisture and resists the action of moulds, bacteria and light.

Measuring Soil Phosphorus

Using radioactive phosphorus, soil chemists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture have successfully developed a method of measuring available phosphate in any soil so accurately that it can be expressed in terms of pounds of superphosphate equivalent per acre. The method is now being used on a limited scale at some agricultural experimental stations to improve phosphate fertilisation recommendations. The phosphate test measures plant absorption of phosphorus from two sources: (1) The natural soil-held phosphate; and (2) radioactive phosphate fertiliser mixed with the soil. It was thought that phosphate would be taken up by plants from both sources in the same proportion that the two phosphates were available in the soil. For example, it was found that millet grown in pots of Norfolk sandy loam soil to which had been added radioactive phosphate fertiliser (superphosphate) at the rate of 500 lb. per acre, took up phosphate from the two sources in equal amounts. In other words, the soil sample naturally contained available phosphate equal to 500 lb. of superphosphate per acre.

Crystallised Poliomyelitis Virus

Crystallisation of purified poliomyelitis virus—the first time that a human- or animal-infecting virus has ever been crystallised—has been achieved by Drs. C. E. Schwerdt and F. L. Schaffer, of the University of California's virus laboratory at Berkeley, California. Their work was supported by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, and it represents the first partial synthesis of a virus.

Structure of Pyrethrum Synergist

The chemical structure of sesamolin, a sesame-oil derivative that is the most potent synergist known for pyrethrum insecticides, has been discovered by Dr. Morton Beroza of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The discovery may lead to development of a satisfactory commercial process for extraction of sesamolin from sesame oil or to the development of a synthetic compound that will duplicate the effect of natural sesamolin. Sesamolin is not available commercially. Dr. Beroza found that the most distinguishing

structural feature of the chemical was a methylenedioxyphenoxy grouping slightly different from that found in present commercial pyrethrum synergists. Dr. Beroza has reported the synthesis of sixty-six new chemical compounds containing that molecular structure, many of which proved to be excellent synergists. Some, he found, were superior to the best commercial synergists now available, but none was as good as natural sesamolin. The best commercial synergists, when mixed with pyrethrum in a ratio of 5:1, make the insecticide about twelve times more effective against flies than pyrethrum without a synergist. It has been found, however, that mixing sesamolin with pyrethrum in a ratio of only 1:1 in-creases the insecticide's fly-killing power thirty-one times. In addition, the presence of sesamolin increases the already potent "knock-down" ability of pyrethrum.

New Insecticide

A potent new insecticide, more powerful in killing insects than DDT and less toxic to humans and farm animals than any modern economic ρoisons, has been discovered by a team of U.S. Government scientists. It is thought that the new chemical may prove to be of greatest value where

flies and insects have developed a resistance to DDT. The new compound, dimethyl dichloro vinyl phosphate (DDVP), was discovered as an impurity in a commercially produced organic compound. 8 gm. of DDVP killed nearly every fly in a large dairy barn where the flies were known to be resistant to DDT. It would have taken 10,000 gm. of DDT to clear the same area. Apart from its reduced toxicity to humans and farm animals, DDVP can be used on crops because it does not remain effective over a long period of time. It is expected to be particularly useful in controlling such pests as mites and aphids.

Acetoglycerides

Acetoglycerides are being produced at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's southern regional research laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana, by acetic acid treatment of ordinary fats and oils. Chief among their unusual properties is an exceptionally wide range of plasticity and the ability to exist as nongreasy plastic solids. Acetoglycerides are potentially important for use in cosmetics, including creams, lotions, and lipsticks, and as plasticisers. Plastics made with them have good resistance to weathering, and remain clear and flexible at low temperatures.

RECENT WORK ON TROPANE ALKALOIDS Lecture to Fine Chemicals Group

THE Fine Chemicals Group of the Society of Chemical Industry met in London on December 9 to learn of "Recent Work on the Tropane Alkaloids" from Dr. F. R. SMITH (T. & H. Smith, Ltd.).

The Duboisias as Source

Interest in tropane alkaloids in recent years, said the speaker, has centred on details of structure and synthesis, but there has been much activity in connection with natural sources. During the 1939-45 war the Australian duboisias (see C. & D., Annual Special Issue, June 6, 1953, p. 593) became important as sources of atropine and hyoscine. They have subsequently maintained their position. The continued importance of hyoscine in surgery and motion sickness, and for its quaternary derivatives such as the butylbromide and methylbromide, has led to overproduction of hyoscyamine and atropine. The study and production of the alkaloids from natural sources was assisted by the development of paper chromatography.

Commercial synthesis of atropine depends on an economic route for the manufacture of succindialdehyde. A variety of methods for the manufacture of that compound have emerged from recent work on the chemistry of furan. The synthesis of tropine follows the classical method of Robinson, and the manufacture of atropine itself is based on a method well-known for many years. Methods for the large-scale production of tropic acid have also been developed. The resolution of atropine to supply hyoscyamine has been car-

ried out on the large scale. The synthesis of homatropine from synthetic tropine has resulted in considerable economy. Substantial quantities of the methylbromide have been produced. Tigloidine, one of the minor duboisia alkaloids, is readily synthesised, but its early promise in the treatment of Parkinson's disease has not been fulfilled.

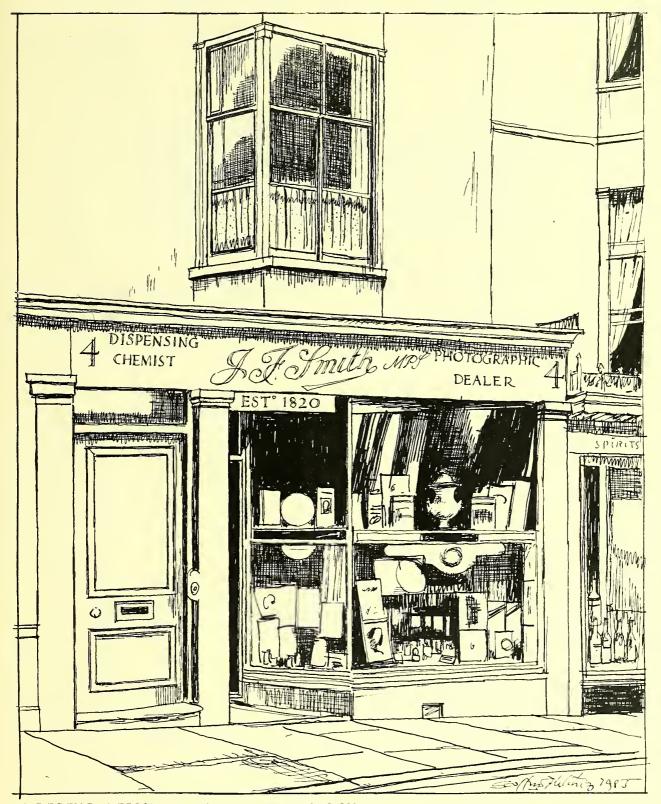
The stereochemistry of the tropane alkaloids has been actively investigated during the past few years. The configuration of the hydroxyl and epoxide groups in the principal alkaloids has been established. So has the configuration of cocaine.

Efforts to introduce the epoxide group characteristic of hyoscine directly into the molecule have been unsuccessful, but many derivatives of 6-hydroxytropine have been prepared.

In discussion on the paper DR. W. MITCHELL asked if anything was known concerning the biogenesis of the tropane alkaloids, but DR. SMITH said he had no information about the biological precursors.

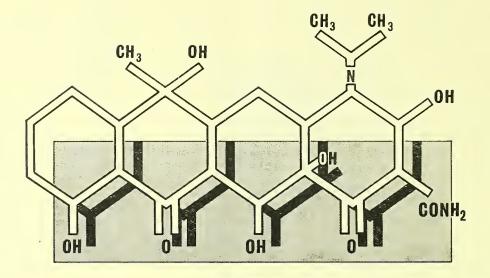
DR. H. J. BARBER, from the chair, suggested that the epoxide ring might be introduced by means of an enzyme system, which presumably was responsible for the synthesis of hyoscine in the plant. DR. SMITH agreed; enzyme variations, he said, were probably responsible for the duboisia cultivated in the Northern part of Eastern Australia containing more hyoscyamine than the other alkaloids, whereas in the southern part hyoscine predominated. He told DR. R. K. CALLOW he had no information of the effects of transferring trees from the south to the north.

PHARMACIES OF BRITAIN—43



A REGENCY-PERIOD PHARMACY AT BRIGHTON

A rather charming small pharmacy of the Regency period is that of J. F. Smith in Victoria Road, Brighton. The business was established in 1820 and has one or two delightful jars and other items on display. An especially fine blue pottery jar can be seen in the drawing. The street adjoins Montpellier Terrace, an early nineteenth-century residential area—the Brighton, in fact, of "Dombey and Son."



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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST WISHES ITS READERS

A prosperous New Year!

Saving for Retirement

THE number of people who, on approaching retirement, find State pensions or other income adequate for comfort and security is small. Not all employers are able to run a pension scheme for their staff, and those who do may not be able to include all staff. Two joint-contributory savings schemes introduced by the National Savings Committee enable employers to encourage their employees to save for retirement or other specific purpose.

Under the first scheme, known as the retirement savings scheme, employees save regularly by deductions from their pay for investment in National Savings Certificates or Defence Bonds. The savings are supplemented by regular contributions from the employer (not exceeding 10 per cent. of the wage or salary or £100 per annum, whichever is the less). The contributions are paid into a trust fund managed by trustees appointed jointly by the employer and the employees. On retirement the employee may draw a lump sum, buy an annuity, or keep the capital intact and draw the interest. As an example, an employee who had saved £50 a year for only ten years would be entitled to £575 plus the employer's contribution at the end of that period.

An assisted savings scheme is similar, but with a short-term aspect. It provides particularly for people in trades or industries in which there is a regular turn-over of labour (for example, where women or girls are constantly leaving for marriage and would find a lump sum of money helpful). Under the scheme the employer's contributions are limited to 5s. a week or an amount equal to the employee's savings, whichever is the less. Repayment from the funds is normally made to an employee for the specific purpose if he or she has been in the scheme for at least five years.

Both schemes are easy to run and easily adapted to different needs. They have the advantage that the employer's contributions count as business expenses for income-tax purposes and do not rank as taxable income for the employees. Some chemists are understood to have already adopted one or other of the schemes. Full particulars may be obtained from the National Savings Committee, 1 Prince's Gate, London, S.W.7, or from a National Savings district office, the addresses of which are given in local telephone directories.

Overseas Trade in November

As a whole the changes between October and November in the value of United Kingdom exports and imports were fairly small—a little over 2 per cent. in each case. Their-direction, however, was adverse, and sufficiently to raise the visible trade deficit for November to £69·2 millions, or slightly less than the average for the preceding ten months for 1955. The value of United Kingdom exports in November was £262·2 millions, or £5·5 millions less than in October. Re-exports, valued at £10 millions in November, returned to about the average level for the preceding months of 1955, after being high at £12·8 millions in October. Imports amounted to £341·5 millions in November, an increase

EXPO	ORTS				VALUE
Drugs modiaines	madia	inal m		liana	£
Drugs, medicines, (total)	medici	•	repara		3,426,029
Y 71	• • • •				243,857
Vitamins Penicillin salts		• • •	•••		117,379
Penicillin injections		• • • •			67.783
				• • •	
· ·	ntment			• • •	55,871
0.1.1	-	nicillir		• • •	553,741
Quinine		•••	• • •	• • • •	14,763
Alkaloids, excluding					103,300
Aspirin			• • •		106,304
Antihistamines	• • •		• • • •	• • •	51,891
Antipaludics	• • • •		• • • •	•••	94,971
Barbiturates	• • • •				52,309
Liver extracts		• • • •	• • •		11,613
	nents				132,098
Insulin					46,879
Sulphonamides					158,379
Proprietary medicine	s				919,545
Unclassified					652,062
Glycerin					103,465
Acetone					31,809
Citric acid					30,761
Salicylates					34,134
Perfumery and toilet pr	eparati	ions			
Lipstick, face powde	er, etc				231,968
Dentifrices					193,234
l'oilet soaps					260,768
Synthetic detergents					823,134
. IMF	ORTS				VALUE
	-				£
Vitamins					117,498
Antibiotics					27,166
Alkaloids					57,854
Proprietary medicines					25,334
Unclassified medicines					254,930
Borax					56,035
lodine					10,567
Menthol					36,239
ssential oils					50,257
Danna					14,769
C1 -					4,612
T				•••	130,253
T .		• • • •			40,827
0		• • •			
					13,059
					100,000
Peppermint Unclassified	•••	• • • •	•••	•••	180,809 285,116

of £8·1 millions on the previous months. In the eleven months of the year the total value of imports was 16 per cent. higher than in the corresponding period of 1954; approximately one-fifth of the increase is attributed to higher prices, and four-fifths to a rise in volume.

Contrary to the general run of exports, prepared medicines, drugs, etc., had a better month than in October, and reached a record figure for the year of £3 4 millions. Contributing largely to that increase were anti-

biotics other then penicillin, which were up by £148,000; alkaloids (up £48,000) and aspirin (up £42,000). Of the total medicinal preparations exported, Australia bought to a value of £202,977; India, the second largest buyer, to a value of £159,406. Burma followed close behind with £158,801 against a monthly average of £101,000 for the first ten months of 1955.

In other sections exports of detergents and toothpastes were substantially higher than in October.

On the import side the value of prepared medicines, at £512,968, was the lowest for four months. The fall was chiefly due to fewer imports of alkaloids, which were down by £74,000.

NEW BOOKS

Converting a Business into a Private Company

STANLEY BORRIE. Jordan & Sons, Ltd., Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2. 7\frac{1}{2} x 5 in. Pp. 54. 4s. 6d.

London, W.C.2. 1\(\frac{7}{2} \times 3 \) in. Pp. 34. 48. 6d.

This is the fifteenth edition of a work which appeared first in 1922. All the advantages of conversion are discussed and the action to be taken "from the time the owner of a business has arrived at the decision to form a company until the completion of the transfer of the business to the company" is set out in logical order and can be followed step by step.

Safety Measures in Chemical Laboratories

H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 in. Pp. 20. Second edition. 1s.

THE booklet originally prepared in the form of notes for the guidance of new entrants to the Chemical Research Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, gives information on general laboratory operations, fire risks, electrical hazards, dermatitis and the dangers of poisons and gases. Methods of treatment are outlined where appropriate. The booklet is set out in an easy-to-read form, and the precautions described are based on the collective experience of the laboratory staff over a period of years.

The Gayelord Hauser Cook Book

GAYELORD HAUSER. Faber & Faber, Ltd., 24 Russell Squarc, London, W.C.1. $8\frac{1}{4}$ x $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. Pp. 336. 15s.

WRITTEN by a well-known American dietician, this cookery book is made up of a collection of varied and unusual recipes which illustrate the author's theories of "eating for health and beauty." New methods of cooking foods so as to preserve their vitamin and mineral content are emphasised, and a chapter is devoted to the author's "special-purpose" foods — Yoghourt, brewers' yeast, soya beans, and gluten dough. The recipc section covers the care and cooking of most classes of food, including soups, vegetables, salads, meat and poultry, desserts, pies, puddings, jams and confectionery. There is a chapter on beverages and other sections include a chapter listing the vitamin and mineral content of various foods, and the percentage acidity or alkalinity of certain ones; a chapter of special menus and diets, including those for reducing and weight-gaining, and a number of recipes and menus for dogs. The concluding chapter on "How to Buy and Use Health Foods," mentions the growing, as well as the uses, of many herbs more frequently found on the shelves of the old apothecary than those of the present-day English housewife.

those of the present-day English housewife.
[Trade inquiries for the Gayelord Hauser products recommended in the book should be addressed to W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds, Yorks.]

A NEW FILM

Streamline Flow in Veins

DR. D. A. MCDONALD (department of physiology, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, London). Wellcome Film Library, 183 Euston Road, London, N.W.1. 16-mm. Colour with sound. 10 minutes. Avaliable on loan without charge. Early application advisable owing to heavy demand.

THE film begins by establishing, by means of dye injected into a tributary vein, that the flow of blood in the small veins of the mesentery is streamlined or laminar. The

larger veins arc then studied by means of a further dye injection into the inferior vena cava in the abdomen of a rabbit. The slight oscillation that takes place during respiratory movement is seen. In the chest the movements become larger and the flow pattern as a result very disturbed. The conclusion is pointed that the physical conditions must be examined to determine whether the flow is streamlined or turbulent. Streamline flow is then demonstrated with water and dye in a glass model clearly showing the fluid particles moving in layers or laminæ parallel to the sides of the tube. In the glass model the long-drawn-out flow parabola is outlined by the advancing dye. Next is seen how the velocity of laminar flow is increased, the flow first becoming unstable and then turbulent. Reynold's formula, giving the critical conditions for the change from one type of flow to another, is then discussed. Through dye injected into the tributary veins the type of flow at different points in the rabbit vena cana and portal venous systems is demonstrated. Close-up photography and a concise commentary make the film instructive and interesting.

Onward from Galen

A CURRENT CAUSERIE

Discussing the shilling prescription levy, the November issue of the News Bulletin of the Finchley Division of the North London Pharmaceutical Association, under the heading "The Amazing Coincidence," says: "We are assured that it is only a coincidence that the saving to the Ministry of Health by the latest cut from 0.25d. to 0.75d. on the 1s. prescription charge is £91,000 p.a., whilst the cost to the Ministry of the latest raise in Ministry of Health civil servants' salaries, payable from July, is £92,000 p.a. We wonder who provided the extra £1,000. When the 1s. is claimed at the post office by the patient, the sub-postmaster receives an average fee of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. for handing it out."

THE arguments for and against the use of babies "dummies" usually turn on questions of hygiene versus contentment, but a recent incident at Scarborough indicates that there are physical hazards that are by no means negligible. At an inquest in that town on a five-month-old infant it was recorded that she died from asphyxia caused by the use of a small feeder. The father said that his daughter always had a feeder when he put her to bed. On the fatal occasion he heard a gurgle and saw that the feeder was jammed between her lips. He was unable to remove it. A medical witness said that it would not take long for the child to suffocate in that way. Such

a thing could happen at any time with that type of feeder.

It could be prevented by having a much wider disc.

THE address of Professor Glaister at a recent evening meeting in Edinburgh (C. & D., December 24, p. 712) was noteworthy for its disclosure of unorthodox and unauthorised sources of poisons. It is necessary, of course, for certain poisonous chemicals such as arsenic and cyanide of potassium to be used in industry. Indeed, the lecturer referred to a poisoning case where the arsenic used had been obtained from a glass works, when a quantity of two or three pounds was taken by a worker and never missed. It appeared in evidence that the arsenic was kept in casks or iron drums, and that about one hundredweight was used daily. It is difficult to suggest what precautions, other than right of search, could be taken to deal with arsenic in such quantity. No doubt some steps would be instituted to prevent a recurrence of the leakage, but the whole thing makes nonsense of the poisons cupboard, the poisons register, and the indigo and soot, not to stress the inbred caution of the pharmacist. It may be taken that arsenic as such is infrequently asked for in the pharmacy. One has a feeling that one of the privileges of qualifying is to keep arsenic in the poisons cupboard, and never on any account to sell

any at all.





Pavement-level showcases are a feature of

A NEW PHARMACY IN ILFORD

HAINAULT Street in Ilford, Essex, is steep and the eye of the pedestrian approaching a certain shop may alight upon showcases at pavement level. They are one of the innovations that abound in a new pharmacy, opened recently by Kendale Dispensing Chemists.

The new shop is the fifth branch of the company, and was fitted out under the direction of Mr. C. Williams of

The emphasis is on personal service, A babyweighing scale is provided, Peg-board behind provides plenty of scope for display.

the shop-fitting department of Labora-Biorex tories, Ltd. Mr. Williams has profited by experience and as new ideas have developed in one shop they have been applied in the next. The newest branch is thus the repository of many novel schemes, the pavement - level showcases being one of them. The cases overhung by the floors of the shop

windows, forming a shop front whose unusual appearance at once attracts attention. The shop front is probably seen at its best in the evening when all the cases are illuminated.

"While-you-wait" Dispensing

Kendale shops pride themselves on a "while-you-wait" dispensing service. It is important therefore that well-placed displays should be provided for the waiting customer to see. In this new shop it was consequently decided to provide a plentiful amount of peg board. What more obvious then, than to line the entire shop with that material? That was done. And, showing fine attention to detail, the true walls under the board were painted black so that the holes in the board would stand out prominently and afford an attractive appearance. The peg board is continued even to the sides of the windows where again it is effectively utilised for display purposes.

"Open Look" Dispensary

All the counters are fronted with glass display cases, and the centre sections of the pavement-level showcases are fitted with clear glass inside the shop so that the contents can be viewed by customers.

But, appreciative as the company is of the value of display, it does not subordinate it to attention to personal service. Thus counter displays are deliberately kept low. In fact no counter risers are used and displays are not built up. The staff appear, therefore, fully visible to the customer and not as disembodied heads amidst a vast mass of merchandise, as happens in some shops. In keeping with that "open look" the dispensary is simply the back part of the front shop. Only a low and relatively narrow display case acts as a token demarcation line. The dispensary and



"Open look" dispensary leads on directly from the front shop.

its occupants are thus in full view of the customers as they enter the premises.

The front shop is fitted in light oak, the dispensary in white-painted wood with plastic bench tops. The dispensary is fitted with adjustable shelving, measure rack, Ascot heater, stainless-steel sink, etc. To conscrve space a sliding door is fitted between dispensary and small stock-room behind. A feature of the dispensary are aspirators of distilled water, aqua chlorof., etc., situated on the top shelf and their contents led down to the dispensary bench by rubber tubing ending in a Mohr clip. Another device is incorporated in the label drawer. The base of each compartment is at an angle, facilitating the peeling off of a label from the top of the pile.

The emphasis, as has been said, is on personal service and that has even decided the choice of personal weighing scale, a beam type being available just inside the door on one side, while on the other side is a basket type for the weighing of babies.

The shop is open each week-day evening from 6 to 8 p.m. for dispensing. A Sunday and bank-holiday service is given between 10.30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

MEDICAL ABSTRACTS

WARFARIN SODIUM AS ANTICOAGULANT

CLINICAL trials of warfarin sodium as an anticoagulant are reported by Pollock (Journal of the American Medical Association, 1955. 2. 1095), who found the drug to be a rapidly acting anticoagulant producing therapeutic hypoprothrombinaemia in approximately twenty-one hours when given intravenously and twenty-four hours when given orally. 100 patients requiring anticoagulant therapy were treated with warfarin sodium. The initial dose was given intravenously in twenty-one cases, orally in seventy-nine. Maintenance dose was given intravenously in thirteen of the former group, and orally in the remaining eighty-seven. Therapeutic hypoprothrombinaemia was induced in adults by an initial dose of about 75 mgm, within twenty-one to twenty-four hours, depending on the route of administration. The maintenance dose, whether oral or intravenous, averaged about 10 mgm. Hæmorrhagic phenomena due to anticoagulant therapy occurred in five cases. No side-effects were encountered, and the author concludes that warfarin sodium possesses properties that make it more nearly an ideal anticoagulant than the other agents now available.

VITAMIN K1 AS PHENINDIONE ANTIDOTE

THE usefulness of an experimental emulsion of vitamin K₁ in the treatment of hæmorrhage due to phenindione is described by Dawson (British Medical Journal, 1955. 2. 1427). The preparation used was a stable emulsion containing 20 mgm, of vitamin K₁ per mil. Twenty-four subjects were given injections of 5, 10 or 20 mgm, of the vitamin intravenously during the administration of phenindione. Basic values of prothrombin activity were determined, and after four days of phenindione administration the activity in all the subjects was of the order of 10-20 per cent. A single in ravenous injection of vitamin K_1 was then given, the dose varying from 5 to 20 mgm. in different subjects. The subjects continued to take phenindione in regular dosage and prothrombin activity was determined at varying intervals. In six volunteers given 20 mgm., and in four given 10 mgm., of vitamin K₁, the prothrombin activity was raised to 100 per cent, within twenty-four hours, irrespective of its original level. In fourteen subjects given 5 mgm., activity rose from 7-19 per cent, to between 50 and 100 per cent. In ten of those, the maximum figure was reached after twenty-four hours, in one after twelve hours, and in three after six hours. No side-reactions were observed with the doses used. The author concludes that in the treatment of hæmorrhage due to phenindione, an intravenous dose of 10-20 mgm. of vitamin K_1 is likely to be effective, and that those doses are also effective within twenty-four hours in correcting a moderate deficiency of prothrombin itself, but that if the vitamin is given simply to raise a dangerously low prothrombin level, even 5 mgm. may be too large a dose if an overshoot above the therapeutic range is to be avoided.

PHARMACY TEACHING IN SPAIN

By Don Guillermo Folch Jou (professor of the faculty of pharmacy, Madrid) N Spain, a clinic hospital, with its corresponding pharmacy department, is attached to each faculty of medicine. In the faculty the lecturer on pharmacology is also the director of the research laboratory. It is in the study of pharmacology that the medical student receives theoretical and practical tuition in medicine forms, in different methods of prescribing, and in the dosage form appropriate to each medicine. In pharmacology, too, he studies such matters as instability, the preparation and handling of sterile products, the strength and proper use of antiseptics, the Spanish Pharmacopæia, maximum dosages, etc. Students also do practical work in the handling of medicines and the best way of preparing them. Nowhere in Spain do medical students receive any instruction at the hands of pharmacists. Male nurses, midwives and nurses take a one-year course in which they are taught the theory and practice of the handling and application of medicines antiseptics, first aid, etc.

There are faculties of pharmacy at Madrid, Barcelona, Santiago and Granada. To obtain a degree, a student must complete six courses of eight months each. Students are taught the theory and practice of mathematics; biology; physics; general, inorganic, organic and analytical chemistry; mineralogy; zoology; physiology; animal physiology; parasitology; botany; pharmacology; microbiology; biological chemistry; galenical pharmacy; and the analysis of organic medicines. The pharmacies in the clinic hospitals are under the direction of the lecturer on galenic pharmacy in the faculty of pharmacy at each. The lecturer must be a pharmacist and Doctor in Pharmacy. That involves taking a course lasting two years after the normal studies and the presentation of a thesis. In his last academic year a student is to remain on a hospital staff and must practice in a clinic hospital pharmacy.

A HECTICKE

From the *Marrow of Chyrurgery*, by Jacob Cooke, Warwick, 1647

A HECTICKE is an unnaturall heat which seising upon the solid part wasteth their moysture. Where note, as in the body there is a threefold moisture, viz. the blood, a dewy substance and glutten. So there is three degrees of Hecticks. In the beginning when the two first humidities beginne to faile, the Hecticke is not easily discerned, although the curation is not difficult; but if the Radicall moisture which keepeth together the Terestriall substance of every part be consumed as its easily discerned, so hardly cured, as long as the moisture is somewhat plentifull, sufficient to entertaine naturall heat. The body seemeth well coloured, of a comely figure, of a decent quantity; but if contrary, leave such a one to himselfe, unlesse hee implore your helpe; then for the Fistula it selfe, inject of aq. plantag. cum syr. ros. succ. cover your Tents and pledget with diachylon. sym. for the Maras: appoint broths of mutton, veale, or chicken, wherein damask prunes, raisins stoned, currans washed and bruised, Mallow flowers and roots, Marrygold, cinque foile, cowslip flowers, and coalts foot leaves and flowers, have beene boyled, gellyes are made of young cockrels and veale, with a little mace and nutmeg; let him have betweene meales, almond milke made of the broath of chickens boyled with French barly, use every morning and evening Asse milke, or Goats, or Cowes, milked through the conserve of borrage or buglosse flowers, Calves, and Sheep feet stewed are good with currans; sometimes let him eat pigs flesh, if he have minde to fish, grant him Whiting-mops, Smelts, Perches, young Pickerels, Trouts, Sole, Flounder and Plaice, sometimes Eeles, poched egges, cum butyr.S.S. and aq. ros. are good for breakfast.

If a Hecticke be the cause of a Maras, then you must moysten and coole in the broaths, then boyle borrage, succory roots, sorrell, luiula, primrose, violets, flor. bor. & buglosse, let his sallets be lettice, spinage, and purslaine, boyled in chicken broath, use almond milk every morning.

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By A. FINNIS ATTWELL

(Examiner in the oral and salesmanship section)

"Dear Pierreport: Your Ma got back safe this morning and she wants me to be sure to tell you not to over-study, and I want to tell you to be sure not to under-study."

O wrote the self-made merchant to his student son. The old man was right. Yet, almost invariably, those who come up for the oral and salesmanship section of the P.D.A. examination, have under-studied salesmanship. Examiners' annual reports clearly indicate this. The student could achieve efficiency if (in the shop, where selling is continuous), he would think, watch and criticise his fellow salesmen and himself, practising the art as suggested in the previous article.

Examiner's Questions

Let us to the examination room and try to learn something of this difficult subject, and what kind of questions you, as candidate, must expect.

The examiner will put you at your ease and will not ask trick questions. His questions will be precisely of the type asked over the photographic counter and he will wish you to regard him as your customer. He will question you somewhat on these lines:—

My son is twenty-one next week and I wish to give him a camera. What can you do for me?

Can you show me how to go about developing my own films?

I am wanting an enlarger—what kind can you recommend?... Demonstrate it.

What faults must I guard against in enlarging?

Imagine that this camera is loaded and we are outdoors in the sunshine Now take a full-length portrait of me.

Have you anything for taking flash pictures with my box camera?

We will deal with the first question at length. It contains little information. All the better. Here's your chance to show intelligence and interest by asking essential questions, and by creating a happy atmosphere.

Personality

Personality is put to the test from the beginning. Much that is vital in salesmanship is a matter of personality. Examiners and customers delight in the salesman who is courteous, cheerful, and helpful, who listens with interest, speaks well and to the point with some enthusiasm and

confidence. Qualities such as these are the soul and spirit of salesmanship. It is a very human enterprise. Bring to it the human touch.

You are dealing with the most fascinating part of trade. Enjoy it, then—look, and sound, as if it is a happy experience. The answers to your opening questions will tell you of the son's photographic experience—whether he has expressed a desire for miniature, reflex, or other type of camera—if he wishes to work in colour, and so on.

You now have to select from stock a camera to suit the occasion. Do not worry about the price. Select a model worthy of a twenty-first birthday which you can recommend with confidence. And, most important—give your reasons. At this stage they should be brief and convincing as you indicate the camera's construction, design, durability, balance, its various features, and major virtues.

This need not take longer than three minutes. Then hand the camera to the customer and say that, when he has examined it, you will be pleased to demonstrate it more thoroughly and explain the method of working. He will now, probably, ask the price. Tell him with no trace of hesitation or apology. Do not add, "It is worth it," or any supporting phrase. Your sincere recommendation is already made. Now give him a chance to say what he thinks. Listen attentively; if he is critical, do not argue or oppose his criticism. There is all the difference between courteous explanation and correction. A contentious salesman is a bad salesman.

But space compels us to assume that the customer is satisfied with the camera and price and would know more about it.

Demonstration of the Camera

Demonstration of a scientific instrument requires thought and practice. All parts of the camera should be demonstrated in order, finishing with shutter and lens. Methods of operating must be made clear, from loading to focusing. Any attempt to give a technical lecture should be avoided: the terms used should be suited to the customer's knowledge. He should then be asked to work the various parts of the camera himself. Before closing the sale, recommend him to purchase a lens hood and a case; both are essentials.

Finally, the camera should be loaded and the customer told that it will be a pleasure to discuss the results with his son and to help him in any way you can.

Don't Talk to the Camera

A word of warning now to candidates to beware of some common faults. These occur mainly during demonstration of cameras, enlargers, developing tanks, meters, etc. Far too many speak monotonously and half-heartedly. Quite often they address their comments to the article, bending their head over it if it is held in the hand. That is deplorable; it creates a sleepy atmosphere. Remarks must be addressed to the examiner as much as is practicable.

Another serious fault is the use of an inadequate vocabulary. An elaborate one is undesirable, but a too limited one comes short of true description. For example, how often one hears "It has a good shutter . . . it has a good lens." Manufacturers of cameras, enlargers, and lenses issue catalogues containing specifications of those products in suitable language. Those should be studied.

Lack of familiarity with photographic apparatus is another weakness. Every effort should be made to overcome it, even if that means asking the help of a neighbouring stockist. In this connection, the series of sixteen evening classes arranged by the P.D.A. with schools of art and technology should not be overlooked. By studying for, and entering, the P.D.A. examination, one's standard of efficiency is raised very considerably. A pass brings a P.D.A. diploma, which gives its possessor the means of gaining a better and more remunerative post, and renders him eligible as an associate member of the Association.

HOSPITAL PHARMACY FORUM

TERMINUS

THIS article will be read after Christmas. The carcase of the turkey will have been thrown out, the cigar ash swept away and, in hospitals, the last remaining ward decorations will have been removed. We are back to normal. Yet we are near enough to Christmas to retain a little nostalgia for it, and sufficiently warmed to the frivolities to look forward to the New Year ball and parties. This, then, is hardly an occasion for coat-trailing in pharmaco-political matters, or for a discourse on the finer points of tablet-counting. Nevertheless it is traditional at the end of the year to cast a glance fore-and-aft to see how we have fared, and how we hope to go in the new year. The depressing buff stationery of the Income Tax office will already have made its appearance and the piles of parcels and Christmas cards in the post office will have given place to neatly stacked Road Fund Licence forms. All these remind us that while man does not live by bread alone, that commodity is not without its importance and is enhanced in palatability if it has a modicum of jam upon it: all of which must be bought with cash. Pharmacists, in common with many other of the Queen's loyal subjects, find cash an interesting topic. As events have turned out, hospital pharmacists have finished the year a little better off in this respect than they began it. The long-awaited Whitley Council agreement was reached, and substantial increases in the salary scales were awarded. Unfortunately, disagreements on policy among the various negotiating bodies and even within some of them made the process wearisome. The final agreement, though not all one would have wished, is one that gives a new status to hospital pharmacy and has helped to reduce the drift from the service of some of the senior men. Unfortunately the staffing position regarding juniors is scarcely touched. There remains to be faced in the New Year the question of points revision and the recognition, in a financial sense, of the responsibilities of group pharmacists. The negotiators will need all the patience and wisdom they can muster to deal with these matters.

First Fédération Congress in London

Another highlight of the year was the holding in London of the sixteenth Congress of the Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique. This is the first time a gathering of this kind has been held in Britain, and opportunity was taken to afford hospitality to hospital pharmacists from overseas. The visitors were generous in their expressions of thanks for the manner in which they were received. For many of them it was their first visit to Britain, and for once we were favoured with a gloriously sunny summer and autumn, so that the guests saw London at its best. The meetings were well attended and the hospital section held three very satisfactory symposia. 1956 has no such occasion planned, and even the British Pharmaceutical Conference will be held "abroad"—in Dublin. It will be interesting to see whether the more seasoned and habituated conference-goers will find other outlets for their enthusiasm, or whether they will take a rest from the surfeit of pharmaceutical "jamborees" this year. There will be the Franco-British weekend at Folkestone, of course, as a consolation. That is a delightful gathering, not overloaded with scientific papers, but usually a little expensive. It is nevertheless usual to find a good sprinkling of hospital pharmacists among those present on such occasions, and Francophilia appears to have become permanently established among some of them. Generally speaking, however, hospital pharmacists are not marked by a strong tendency to sociability. Perhaps the cares and labours of the daily round are too exacting to allow us to enjoy a little relaxation together. That is a pity, for a good dinner and dance once a year would be

a suitable occasion to meet socially. Apart from functions held in connection with conferences (the B.P.C. in 1953 and the F.I.P. in 1955) it is nearly ten years since the London hospital pharmacists attempted such an event. On that occasion disaster was averted only by the support given by the representatives of the drug houses. I wonder if the morticians are more gay than we, and why? Our Mancunian colleagues are not quite so inhibited, and have established a reputation for their Shrove Tuesday dinner. Perhaps London will notice that function eventually and try to emulate it.

And why not combine business and pleasure? Our American friends hold what are called "Institutes" several times a year to which come large numbers of hospital pharmacists to discuss technical matters and professional problems of the day. Something of the kind has already been done on a local basis in Birmingham. It would be a good New Year resolution if the Council of the Guild of Public Pharmacists were to decide on something similar: we badly need new thought and enthusiasm. So let it be "a Happy New Year."

BRITISH FINE CHEMICALS AND THEIR USES

50. ALUMINIUM CHLORIDE

A LUMINIUM chloride at the turn of the century was in relatively small demand; by 1913 one firm alone produced about 30 tons daily, and its production has continued to expand ever since. In the ordinary way, it is supplied in the anhydrous and crystalline varieties, but there are also commercial qualities of less pure composition. The reason for its vastly increased demand is its valuable uses in refining petroleum oils by different methods. These relate to heating alumina and coke in a current of chlorine: other processes substitute coal, hydrochloric acid vapour, and powdered aluminium. One of the largest producers makes aluminium chloride by chlorination of carbonised bauxite.

Aqueous solutions which suffice for disinfectant purposes are prepared by dissolving aluminium hydroxide in hydrochloric acid. In the field of organic synthesis it has been claimed that as many as 178 applications of aluminium cilloride have been made. Many of those processes were formerly restricted because of lack of the salt at cheap rates. It is used in different ramifications of the Friedel-Craft reaction, and also represents a valuable reagent for absorbing different gases, including ammonia, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen sulphide; and combines with other sulphur and phosphorus compounds, besides the chlorides of silver selenium, tellurium, and other metals. Another more recent industrial use is in the production of various synthetic rubbers, where it is engaged in the polymerisation of isoprene, butadiene and haloprene, not to mention numerous other uses as a catalytic agent.

Aluminium chloride is also used as the basis for producing double salts for alternative purposes. The simple salt is employed instead of sulphuric acid for carbonising wool, since it decomposes into alumina, steam and hydrochloric acid at 125° C., the hydrochloric acid causing the carbonisation. In dyeing and calico printing it is frequently employed in printing colours produced on the fibre by oxidation, but its use as a mordant for steam alizarin reds appears to be only successful in certain circumstances. It has been included in soldering and tinning compositions, in artificial mineral waters, in the production of certain fertilisers, and in patented spinning bath preparations for making synthetic fibres, etc.

Although but little used in the inorganic or metallurgical

Although but little used in the inorganic or metallurgical laboratory, it is a primary reagent in various organic investigations. The anhydrous salt is highly deliquescent, and requires to be stored out of contact with the atmosphere. The commercial salt frequently shows a yellow tint due to the presence of iron as impurity, depending on the class of bauxite used. Some varieties contain up to as much as 6 per cent, of chlorides of iron, titanium and silicon.

whereas the crystallised salt is generally pure.

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* The Health of the School Child, p. 141. Published by H.M.S.O. 1954.

Ask for supporting display material, display stands and counter leaflets.

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THE MARKETS IN 1955

Quiet trading conditions, fairly stable prices in pharmaceutical chemicals, scarcity of many botanicals and a general easing of essential oil prices

—these were the features of the year

THE chemical industry in the United Kingdom continued to expand during 1955 with many plants working to capacity to fill the increasing demands of various industries for basic chemicals. The same, however, cannot be said for Pharmaceutical and Fine Chemicals, supplies of which, with few exceptions, were easy throughout. Prices were reasonably stable although manufacturers' production costs rose. Competition from imported material was strong in a number of commodities and certain items, notably among the vitamins, were reduced on more than one occasion.

While there were less unemployed in the United Kingdom during 1955 than in any peace-time year, the business boom which proceeded apace seemed to by-pass Mincing Lane-certainly so far as the CRUDE DRUGS AND ESSEN-TIAL OILS sections were concerned. Week by week it was necessary to report "quiet trading prevailed." Those dull conditions, coupled with the tightening of credit by the banks as part of the Government's dearer money policy, gave merchants no encouragement to buy crops in advance of orders, consequently there was a continued shortage of spot supplies of many commodities and that shortage was further emphasised often by the producing countries where labour found more lucrative employment than gathering crops for which there might or might not be a demand. On the other hand, the high prices of essential oils ruling generally in the previous year encouraged production and in a number of items there was overproduction. Although not universal the prices in that market were generally weak through lack of demand.

Immeasurable damage to the country's exports and reexports was caused by the strike of dockers, added to which (for part of the time) was the congestion in freight traffic caused by the superimposed strike of railway footplatemen. Some of the cargoes bound for London and other major ports were landed at Continental ports where storage had to be paid and extra freight incurred to bring them to England after the strike was over. Other cargoes, like Senega, went back again across the Atlantic.

Crude Drugs

Among the commodities persistently in short supply were ALOES, BUCHU, and high testing IPECACUANHA, while others like Myrrh, Lobelia Herb, were temporarily affected. During the first quarter prime Cape Aloes held steady around 275s. per cwt. but by the end of June it had reached 330s. on the spot. During August it slipped back to 300s, but offers were always sporadic and by the end of December no offers were received for shipment and holders were asking 325s. Curação material was available from time to time but those supplies were also erratic. Even when the new crop Buchu Leaves arrived the price of the rounds dropped only to about 4s. per lb. (compared with 2s. in the year previously). As supplies in South Africa became exhausted the price climbed steadily to 8s. in November by which time only ovals and mixed leaves in very limited quantity were in the hands of merchants. There was little activity in IPECACUANHA with Colombian variety the most easily procurable on the spot; prices ranged from 62s. 6d. to 65s. per lb. in the middle of the year down to 57s. 6d. in December. Among Spices, GINGER was predominantly firm throughout, starting the year at 250s. per cwt. Jamaican No. 3 rose sharply during the early months falling only a few shillings when the new crop material was offered. Firmer conditions again set in during the second half of

April when the price jumped to 350s. From then onwards steady gains were made until 450s, was reached early in December. African material fluctuated similarly from 217s, in January to 215s, in April then upwards until a peak of 270s, in September was achieved; thereafter the spot price dropped gradually to 252s, 6d, in December. Turmeric was in constant demand and supplies were never too plenti-

CRUDE DRUGS		December 1954	December 1955
	Per	s. d.	s. d.
Aloes, Prime Cape	cwt.	265 0	325 0
Balsam tolu	lb.	26 6	25 6
Buchu, rounds	lb.	7 0	8 0*
Camphor, B.P	lb.	7 0	. 66
Cascara sagrada	cwt.	265 0	260 0
Cloves, Zanzibar	lb.	3 94	3 3
Cochineal, black	lb.	20 0	33 0
Ergot, Portuguese	lb.	15 6	11 0
Gentian, French	cwt.	107 6	127 6
Ginger, African	cwt.	225 0	252 6
Jamaican No. 3	cwt.	250 0	450 0
Gum acacia	cwt.	162 6	140 0
Ipecacuanha, Colombian	lb.	62 0	56 0
Nicaraguan	lb.	67 6	67 6
Menthol, Chinese	lb.	50 0	48 0
Mercury	flask	2,200 0	1,800 0
Seeds, Anise	cwt.	220 0	265 0
Caraway	cwt.	180 0	160 θ
Coriander	cwt.	80 0	95 0
Dill	cwt.	100 0	62 6
Senega	1b.	23 6	21 6
Shellac F.O	cwt.	460 0	415 0
Tragacanth No. 1	lb.	25 10	30 0
Waxes			
Bees, Dar-es-Salaam	cwt.	510 0	580 0
Carnauba, prime yellow	cwt.	900 0	880 0

*Early November, no supplies afterwards,

ful. Cloves fell by about sixpence per lb. on the year. The hurricane which hit Grenada towards the end of September destroyed many of the NUTMEG trees and it is expected that it will take many years to get the crop back to normal. Much of the current crop was lost although those nutmegs that could be gathered suffered less than their outer shells which provide MACE.

The beginning of the year saw MENTHOL climb fairly steeply; in January alone Chinese material rose by 9s. per lb. and that level was held for about four months. Easier prices came in the summer followed by a further sharp decline in October. Brazilian menthol scarcely offered competition in the London market, most of it going direct to the United States where Chinese material was banned. Sino-U.S. trade, which at one time was expected to develop, never materialised, and that fact, no doubt, kept the price of menthol lower than it would otherwise have been. COCHINEAL from the Canary Isles was a firm market throughout the year, with supplies of all grades, particularly black-brilliant, very scarce; any parcels offered were quickly taken up on the spot. Some improvement in the position was noted in December but SAFFRON was always scarce and dear.

CASCARA SAGRADA prices were more stable during 1955 than previously, and the unusual position arose in which it was cheaper to buy 1954 peel on the spot than to buy new crop for shipment.

Collections of bark were about average this year since there was no lumber strike as in 1954. Ergot, always the most unpredictable of drugs so far as prices are concerned, was steady to weak. There was very little activity in Portuguese material on the part of buyers and certainly little pressure on the part of origin to sell. Towards the end of the year American ergot was available and sizeable quantities were said to have been disposed of in the London market. There were no spectacular rises or falls among the BALSAMS; TOLU became difficult to find about August; demand for the B.P. grade as against the "genuine as imported" appeared to be on the increase. The LOBELIA crop in the United States was a failure for the second year in succession. By December very high prices were asked for any small lots of spot material available. There was little to report on SENNA; during July Tuticorin described the new crop leaves as being of good colour but the general opinion of London importers was less enthusiastic. Handpicked Alexandrian pods were always hard to procure in the case of the better qualities.

In May the Government of India once again allowed the export of RAUWOLFIA, but by that time Indian exporters had acquired large stocks, and the United States, which is by far the largest consumer, had turned to other countries for material whilst the ban was on. Both the serpentina and canescens varieties were freely available in the latter half of the year, and prices declined through lack of interest. Honey proved to be a consistently firm market through lack of supplies. London was solely dependent upon Australia for supplies in March; Jamaican honey was cleared and there were no shipments from the Argentine. Germany was an active buyer both in Australia and London.

In Aromatic Seeds high prices obtained for Anise and some buyers switched to China star which was available at a much cheaper price. Dutch CARAWAY and Indian CELERY generally had a poor year but Coriander remained firm for many months, partly due to the situation in Morocco where very small shipments were made. The Rumanian or Danubian being at a lower level has encouraged buyers to go more for those qualities. During the second half of the year there was a steady flow of small business in Cumin, mainly in Cyprian, for both home and export trade. Several consignments of Iranian were made and disposed of promptly. Moroccan has been of little interest because of the high prices asked at origin. Demand for Indian DILL was somewhat disappointing from home users. Fennel prices (Indian and Chinese) remained static with small demand. Since July FENUGREEK has been firm, the Moroccan crop was not up to expectations and shippers were not keen sellers at 52s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. On the other hand, buyers here would not pay the dearer prices. The mild weather no doubt helped the buyers to hold off. The new crop MUSTARD proved to be of good quality and prices became more steady with the result more business was done.

Pharmaceutical and Fine Chemicals

Considering the increased costs of raw material, labour, transport and packaging charges, etc., the prices of pharmaceutical and fine chemicals were reasonably stable during 1955. The higher costs mentioned were often absorbed by the manufacturers through streamlining production, although it was generally agreed at the end of the year that the limit had been reached. Thus SALICYLATES and ASPIRIN were increased throughout their schedules in October. Consumers of the bulky and cheaper chemicals such as Ammonium Bicarbonate, Calcium Carbonate, Sodium Sulphate, liquid and soft Paraffins, and Sulphur, had to bear some of the higher costs. Borax and Boric ACID were raised twice during the year; on the first occasion (April 1) because of higher ocean freight rates. Adjustments in the price of CITRATES were made for small lots in February and for all quantities in May. Potassium CITRATE in 1-cwt. lots became dearer by fourpence per lb. POTASSIUM BROMIDE was increased by one penny per lb. at the beginning of August. while other bromides were also higher. HYDROGEN PEROXIDE, SODIUM PERBORATE and PER-CARBONATE were increased in September. The price of THYMOL rose by two shillings per lb. in three stages during the year. TARTARIC ACID and CREAM OF TARTAR were scarce during part of the year and two price increases were registered for both commodities.

CHEMICALS	Minimum rate	December 1954	December 1955	
	Per	s. d.	s. d.	
Aneurine hydrochloride	kilo	800 0	565 0	
Aspirin	lb.	4 6	4 7	
Boric acid	cwt.	84 6	87 6	
Caffeine citrate	lb.	26 6	14 0	
Calcium lactate	lb.	2 7	2 7	
Citric acid	. cwt.	205 0	205 0	
Cream of tartar	cwt.	191 0	231 0	
Glycerin	cwt.	274 6	274 6	
Nicotinamide	kilo	110 0	88 6	
Nicotinic acid	kilo	70 0	53 3	
Potassium bromide	lb.	$2.10\frac{1}{2}$	2 11½	
Potassium citrate	lb.	$3 \cdot 10^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$3\ 10\frac{1}{2}$ *	
Sodium salicylate	lb.	3 5	3 7	
Tartaric acid	cwt.	230 0	270 0	
Theobromine alkaloid	lb.	40 6	29 3	
Theophylline alkaloid	. lb.	29 0	22 0	
Thymol	. lb.	14 9	17 3	
Zinc oxide	cwt.	120 0	131 0	

*3s 6\d. in February.

ROCHELLE SALT was increased by £1 per cwt, in July. Because of a continued shortage of Chinese galls, TANNIC ACID was increased by sixpence per lb. in November.

Antibiotics moved well in the home market, but despite a further cut in the price of PENICILLIN, exports of the latter fell during the year. Exports of the newer antibiotics, however, are expected to be higher than in 1954. DIAMORPHINE "made news" when considerable opposition was raised against the ban to manufacture, which culminated in the postponement of the ban for a year only eighteen days before it was to be enforced.

Chief among the pharmaceuticals which were reduced in price were the vitamins. Aneurine hydrochloride was reduced in January, August and October, the kilo price falling a total of £9. ASCORBIC ACID, RIBOFLAVINE, NICO-TINIC ACID and MENAPHTHONE were each reduced once during the year. The firm positions of CAFFEINE and THEOBRO-MINE noted during 1954 were reversed and whilst there was no fixed price pattern for either, a general reduction was made on three occasions during 1955. MERCURIALS were reduced in August in sympathy with the lower price of the metal.

Industrial Chemicals

In INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS many items were in good demand with manufacturers' order books full for months ahead. Particularly scarce were PHTHALIC ANHYDRIDE, TITA-NIUM DIOXIDE and certain grades of NAPHTHALENE. Some of the Organic solvents were reduced in price, but GLYCERIN was held steady with imports available to help out domestic production.

Essential Oils

Importers of essential oils were understandably reluctant to bring in oils under such quiet trading conditions especially as the origin attempted to maintain the previous years' high level of prices. Chinese PEPPERMINT (arvensis) lost about 13s, a lb. on the year, any gains made one week being often cancelled out during the following. Ceylon CITRONELLA moved between 8s. and 6s. 6d. per lb. and finished the year around 1s. lower than in December 1954. In contrast, however, Formosan oil rose from 11s. 9d. (in bond) to 14s., whilst Java-type was almost, if not wholly, unobtainable in the London market after July. LEMON-GRASS climbed and fell week by week like a barometer. Quoted at 18s. to 18s. 9d. per lb. for spot material in

January, the price moved unsteadily downwards and by December was about 4s. 6d. lower. Anise lost about 2s. 6d. during the year and the Italian consortium for BERGAMOT lowered its price for the oil in January by 12s. 6d. a lb.

CLOVE oil from buds was also lower as the price of cloves fell, but NUTMEG rose appreciably reflecting the raw material supply position. Brazilian Bois de Rose was a firm market early in the year, but at the close the price was forced down by the appearance of cheaper-priced Peruvian oil. Mysore Sandalwood was an exception to the rule with demand reputed in excess of supply and prices rising to over 100s. per lb. from about 65s.

CITRUS oils did not alter much in price but it is difficult to make comparisons since there are now so many qualities. A report by a mission that visited the West Indies to study the economic position of the citrus industry in those islands, published its report in April. The members concluded that there was no likelihood of improved prices for LIME oil, whilst the high prices for Orange and Grapefruit ruling earlier could not be justified and the industry should not expect to rely on such levels for what was "clearly a by-product" as a means of maintaining the industry on a sound financial basis.

Among Expressed Oils the decline in Castor was

halted in June and thereafter the price continued to firm aided by a shortage in India brought about by American buying. LINSEED oil was also becoming scarce and dearer towards the close of the year. The crop of OLIVE oil was well below average and whilst the Spanish government's export price was maintained, Spanish exporters were seeking a premium for any shipments they made towards the close of the year. The French oil was well above the price of the Spanish material.

ESSENTIAL OILS			December 1954		December 1955		
				per		per	
			1	S.	d.	S.	d.
Anise				19	6	17	6
Bergamot				80	0	67	6
Citronella, Ceylon				7	13	6	6
Clove, Madagascar	leaf			12	6	9	6
Eucalyptus, 70-75%				5	0	5	8
Lemongrass, E.I.				18	9	14	0
Palmarosa				62	6	62	6
Patchouli, Penang				60	0	48	6
Peppermint, Chinese				44	0	33	6
Italian				68	0	65	0
Vetivert, Bourbon				90	0	82	6

LOOKING BEFORE AND AFTER

By COMMITTEEMAN

NE tends to adopt a Janus-like attitude at the turn of the year in endeavouring to assess the gains of the past and estimate any possible advantages that may lie in the future. Pharmaceutical contractors, however closely they may search, will find little amongst the events recorded in the C. & D. during 1955 to hearten them for their work in 1956.

Various conferences of pharmacists (both Ang. and Exot.) have been held, of course, and possibly professional ideals are higher as a result of them. Area conferences also have been staged by the National Pharmaceutical Union, and much small talk has been exchanged on those occasions. When all has been sifted and assayed, however, little of satisfying sustenance is forthcoming for the chemist-contractor to set out upon his Christmas dinner table.

Quiet consideration of results and a balancing of this and that leave one with the feeling that all is not as well as it should be with the position of the chemist-contractor. How long is it since a claim for increased remuneration was lodged with the Ministry of Health?

Month after month the pharmacist manipulates his medicaments and, as a monument to his contractual correctness, produces a Formulary mixture in an 8, 12, 16, or even 20-oz. bottle. But many, many months ago his allowance for the container was cut down by half. Profound dissatisfaction was then registered on behalf of pharmacists but what has been the result? A meticulous examination of every single item of cost involved in providing the pharmaceutical service has been undertaken officially at the instance of the Treasury, as if cash and materials were the mainsprings of the chemist's service, and as if skill and experience and even conscience held no place in his professional duty.

Step by step, apparently, in the case of that formulary bottle, an advance has been made, from the sediment at the bottom (if any), by tablespoonfuls up the graduation ladder until the cork was reached. Progress from that point has halted, possibly because there is nothing bevond it but thin air. Negotiations on allowances for elastic hosiery are still at the stage of a two-way stretch, and discussions on oxygen questions remain in the gaseous state.

Is it any wonder that Mr. H. Noble (secretary of the National Pharmaceutical Union), almost as a despairing cry from the platform, told the delegates gathered at Eastbourne in November (C. & D., November 12, p. 349) that nothing was more difficult than trying to establish a case (for chemists) with the Ministry of Health? One is led even

to ask whether chemists have really got a case to establish when they sit in consultation with Ministry representatives, or do their thrusts at the conference table lack that power and punch necessary to drive home conviction?

It is true we now live in a different world, and life is not as simple as once it was. It used to be considered sufficient for any claim to be well based on truth and justice for its rightness to shine forth with the brilliance of the morning star. That does not seem to happen nowadays with claims for justice put forward by chemist-contractors.

Yet withal one cannot watch these national negotiations developing into a sordid scramble for "some amount between a penny-farthing and twopence" (C. & D., November 12, p. 548) without wondering why the Pharmaceutical Society is persistently expending so much money and time and trouble on establishing the professional character of our ancient calling.

When Mr. Noble so truly admitted that the question of remuneration overshadows all other matters at the present time, he stated also that present payments probably cover costs at the levels of the beginning of the present year. But we are now in the midst of another winter session. All around us commodity costs are steadily rising and Butler's Balancing Budget has still to exercise its full influence on the provision of the professional service for which the pharmacist is responsible.

In October, Mr. J. Wright told North London pharmacists that sooner or later the question what is remuneration would have to be decided once and for all (C. & D., November 29, p. 487). But at the beginning of 1956 the decision chemist-contractors are most interested in obtaining is what their future remuneration is going to be—and that is a decision they seek sooner rather than later.

Truly the past is gloomy enough, and if the future is ever going to be brighter, contracting pharmacists, as individuals, and in association, must in every wav possible strengthen the hands of the N.P.U. Executive and the Central Contractors' Committee, so that they can succeed in forcing an issue at an early date on all the outstanding important questions that have been mentioned. They bear more and more heavily the longer they remain unsolved.

Unless something definite is done, and that right early, pharmacists will never catch up on reality, and each post-dated award will only throw into greater prominence the inadequacy of the Ministry's grudging allowances, and the futility of the pharmacists' expectation of Governmental fair dealing.

TRADE MARKS

APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

From the "Trade Marks Journal," December 14

For esters, their derivatives and preparations, all being chemical products (1)

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For non-liquid chemical products for use in agriculture and horticulture (1)

ACTIVOL, 743,432, by Plant Protection, Ltd., Yalding, Kent.

For isopropyl alcohol (1)

PROCOL, 745,726, by Alcohols, Ltd., London, N.17.

For chemical products used in industry (1) MANALATE, 745,759, by Hardman & Holden, Ltd., Miles Platting, Manchester.

For gypsum prepared for use in agriculture (1) NUCRUM. 746,647, by Gypsum (Agr.eultural Supplies), Ltd., Scunthorpe, Lines.

IONAGAR, 746,984, by the British Dyewood Co., Ltd., Glasgow, C.1

For synthetic resins for use in the manufacture of anti-corrosive and protective coatings (1)

EPILACA, 742,422, by Detel Products, Ltd., South Ruislip, Middlesex.

For chemical products for use in the plastics industry (1)

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For all goods (1)

EXPROL, 747,264, by May & Baker, Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.

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Design with the wording ATKINSONS SKINFARE, 740,305, by J. & E. Atkinson, Ltd., London, W.1. Device with the wording LADY ACOSY, 745,120, by the American Cosmetic Syndicate, N.V., Eindhoven, Holland, Device with the wording BAT, 743,986, by John Batt & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.2.

For toilet creams for use in dyeing eyebrows and evelashes (3)

KOLOKREM. 746,460, by Alvar Carlsson, Aktiebolag, Stockholm, Sweden.

For pharmaceutical preparations and products for veterinary use (5)

PENTOLISSIN, 740,616, by Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, E.2.

For all goods (5)

TIOXINE, 743,114, METUCHAN, 745,086, by Pretested Products, Ltd., London, E.C.2. PANADOL, 745,473 (in United Kingdom only) by Bayer Products, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, PANADOL, 745,474 (for export), by Winthrop Products, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, RESPENYL, 746,552, by the Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., London, N.W.10,

For chemical substances for use in diagnosing protein content of the body fluids (5)

ALTEST, 745,211, by Ames Co., Inc., Elkhart, Indiana, U.S.A.

For pharmaceutical preparations (5)

REPTILASE, 745,639, by Pentapharm, A.G., Basle, Switzerland.

For analgesics for human use; and veterinary preparations and substances; all for sale in the United Kingdom (5)

TRIMON, 745,720, by Bayer Products, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey,

For medicated saline preparations for human use for liver ailments (5)

Device with the wording ANDREWS LIVER SALT EFFERVESCENT LAXATIVE, ANDREWS LEWERSOUT BRUISEND LAK-SEREND, by Scott & Turner, Ltd., Gallowgate, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

For natural and artificial sponges (21)

PAXYLON, 743,157, by C. G. Paxton, Ltd., Stockport, Lancs

From the "Trade Marks Journal," December 20

For chemical products used in agriculture, horticulture, and forestry; and seed dressings and

AKOMOR, 746,561, by Bayer Agriculture, Ltd., London, S.W.1.

PRINT AND PUBLICITY

Booklets and Leaflets

BRITISH CELLOPHANE, LTO., 12 Conduit Street, London, W.I: "They Work for You." A "guide" to the work of the B.C.L, service team, Pp. 24.

ROTHE PROOUCTS, LTO., 15 Manchester Square, London, W.1: "Diseases of the Eye, No. 4" (16-p. booklet prepared by the medical illustration department, Institute of Ophthalmology in association with Moorfields Westminster and Central Eye Hospital, London),

Medical Propaganda

Manufacturers' leaflets, folders, booklets, etc., directed to doctors but available to pharmacists.

BRITISH SCHERING, LTO., 229 Kensington High Street, London, W.8: "Neo-Mercazole in Thyrotoxicosis" (4-p. folder and card); Neutradonna diet sheets (pad); "Oblivon in Bronchial Asthma" (4-p. folder),

EVANS MEGICAL SUPPLIES, LTO., Speke, Liverpool, 19: "Bitrinsic Tablets," "Purgoids," "Evans Dermal Powder" (4-p. folders); "Nobecutane Sterile Plastic Wound Dressing" (12-p, booklet); "Presfersul" (leaflet).

GEIGY PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD., Rhodes, Middleton, Manchester: "Tebofen—A Composite Oral Chemotherapy for Tuberculosis" (4-p. leaflet, 12-p. booklet); "Thrombokinase Geigy with Calcium" (4-p. folder).

ELI LILLY & Co., LTo., Basingstoke, Hants: "Valmid tablets" (card).

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER), LTO., Dagenham, Essex: "M. & B. Antihis-taminies" (44-p. booklet); "Sulphatriad Compound Sulphonamides" (4-p. folder); "Phensedyl Cough Linetus " (blotter).

ROCHE PRODUCTS, LTO., 15 Manchester Square, London, W.I: "Romilar Syrup" (4-p. fol-der); "Romilar Review" (4-p. file folder).

ROUSSEL LABORATORIES, LTO., 847 Harrow Road, London, N.W.10: "Amenorone in Amenor-rhea" (6-p, folder); "Indications and Dos-ages of Cortisyl Roussel" (8-p, booklet); Decortisyl Roussel" (6-p. folder).

Commercial Television

THE following products are being advertised on commercial television (London station) on the days stated :-

SUNDAY, January 1, 1956: Bisodol; Zubes cough lozenges; Loxene medicated shampoo; Bryl-creem (at 9.30 p.m.); Benger's food (between 9,30 and 10.30 p.m.).

MONDAY, January 2, 1956: Carter's little liver pills (between 8 and 10 p.m.)

TUESDAY, January 3, 1956: Beecham's powders; Philishave dry shaver (between 8 and 10 p.m.).

THURSOAY, January 5, 1956: Beecham's pills (between 10 and 11 p.m.)

FRIOAY, January 6, 1956: Bisodol: Lux toilet

SATUROAY, January 7, 1956: Lloyd's adrenaline cream.

COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading, should be sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

Monday, January 2

ULL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION and BRANCH, Imperial hotel, Hull, at 1.30 p.m. Luncheon club.

Society, Bellevue hotel, Cliftonville, at 8 p.m. Mr. J. McClenahan (National Pharmaceutical Union) on "The N.H.S. Drug Testing ISLE OF Scheme."

WEST KENT BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY public library, Beckenham, at 8 p.m. Travel

Wednesday, January 4

BOURNLMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Grand hotel, Bournemouth, at 2.30 p.m. Children's party.

PORTSMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Christ Church hall, Portsdown, at 3.30 p.m. Children's Christmas party.

SHEFFIELD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL Nether Chapel schoolroom, Norfolk Street. Sheffield, at 3.30 p.m. (younger children) and 4.45 p.m. (children over five). Christmas party.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION, Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.11, at 6 p.m. Dinner and New Year party. Ticket, 18s. 6d., from Mr. Marsden Lewis, 145 Franciscan Road, London, S.W.17.

WESTERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, Bonnington hotel, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1. at 7.15 p.m. Address by Mr. W. Talvan Rees (chairman of the Executive of the National Pharmaceutical Union).

Thursday, January 5

URHAM COUNTY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Waterloo hotel, Old Elvet, Durham City, at 7.45 p.m. Mr. C. C. Stevens, LL.B., M.P.S. (Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals), Ltd.) on "Acts of Parliament Affecting the Pharmacist in Practice."

FINCHLEY DIVISION, NORTH LONGON PHARMACEU-TICAL ASSOCIATION, St. Luke's Church hall, Mountfield Road, London, N.3, at 7.30 p.m. New Year party in aid of Birdsgrove House. Ticket, 5s., from Mr. A. King, 222 Regent's Park Road, London, N.3.

SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, at 7,30 p.m., Mr. S. F. Townsend on "Container Closures.

Friday, January 6

EXETER BRANCH, PHARMACFUTICAL SOCIETY, Assem-'oly Rooms, South Street, Exeter, at 7.30 p.m. Members' night.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, London, W.C.1, at 5.15 p.m. Professor C, De Duve (professor of physiological chemistry, University of Louvain) on "Intracellular Distribution Patterns of Enzymes " (first of two lectures),

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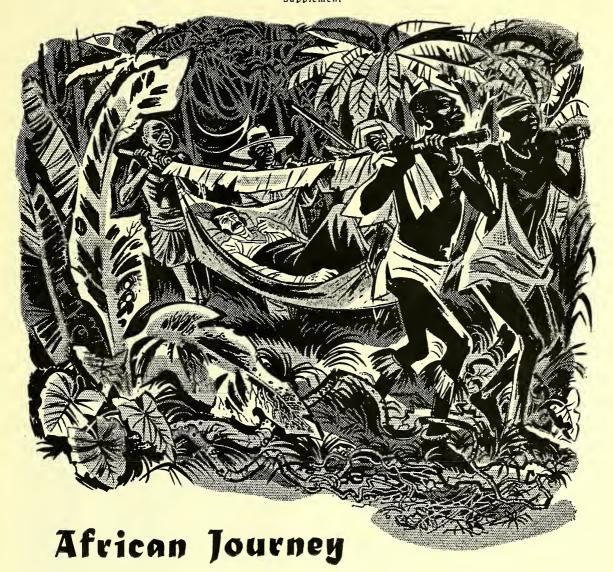
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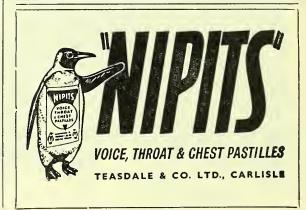
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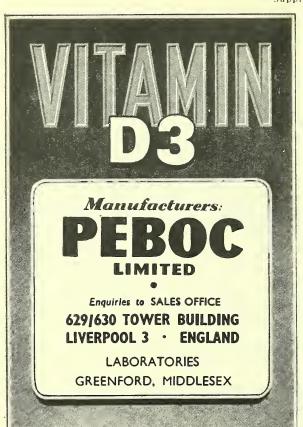
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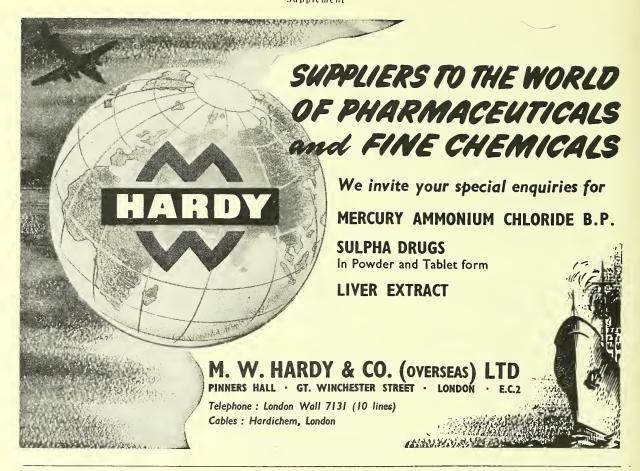
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